

MILITARY AND NAVAL MAGAZINE

OF THE

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The observations which are here inserted, upon the present condition of our Navy, and the measures recommended for its improvement, have already been published elsewhere; but coming, as they do, from an officer of long experience, who has devoted much time and reflection to the study of his profession, their republication at this time, it is hoped, will have the effect of drawing public attention to the wants of a service, upon which most of our reliance for defence must be placed in the event of a war. Indeed all the laws that can be passed for building and equipping vessels, and providing officers to command them, will be found inadequate, unless some measures are resorted to, to secure competent petty officers and able seamen. These classes are as essential to the successful operations of a Navy as are the non-commissioned officers and soldiers to an efficient Army; their importance therefore cannot be overrated, nor can money be misapplied, which is expended for their improvement.

THE NAVY.

The importance of our naval force to the best interests of this nation I believe is no longer a question, and the ready support given to it by the appropriations of Congress, and the approving voice of the people, are sufficient proofs that it will be cherished as long as our present form of Government continues. Is it not therefore, both proper and advisable that every necessary attention should be paid to its improvement? It is pretty evident that we have but little to apprehend from any other quarter than that on which this force is employed; and notwithstanding these times of almost universal peace, its protection to our only assailable treasure, appears to be indispensable.

Having thus prefaced my opinion of the value of the Navy to the nation, and the disposition to protect and improve it, I shall endeavor to show how that object can best be accomplished.

One of the first extraordinary omissions, is that of a Naval School. Can any man be so unacquainted with the requisites, that render a naval officer adequate to the discharge of his duty, as to believe that he does not require a more scientific introduction to the mysteries of his profession, than that which he can obtain on board a single ship, at sea, or in such small squadrons as those which we are in the practice of employing on the different stations where we have a naval force.

I think it very probable that there are many of our officers who have never seen a line of any description formed by a fleet of our own ships, during their whole service, and of course, if they have no other opportunity of becoming acquainted with the science of naval tactics, and the use and application of the signals thereto, it can scarcely be expected, that in the moment of need they should be found adequate to a duty, which of all others required of naval men, calls for the most profound theoretical and practical knowledge.

I am persuaded that we have some officers who have, by dint of hard study, observation and long service, made themselves acquainted with this *absolutely necessary science*, and if properly aided and sustained in their commands by associates who had the advantages of an early theoretical introduction to this science, might so manœuvre a fleet, as to answer the wishes and expectations of the nation; but without this knowledge, no reasonable hope of success could be calculated on.

The advantages of an early theoretical knowledge, in this part of a young sea officer's education, and a fair opportunity to put it into practice, must be evident to all who have ever spent a thought on the subject. If it were not so, how does it happen that the naval powers of Europe, should consider it necessary to employ squadrons in time of peace, to reduce to practice this indispensable theory, which forms the basis of all important naval warfare? Actions between single ships and fleets, are as different as combats between individuals and armies; either of the former parties having merely to direct their own exertions, while the success of the latter depends on the combined uniformity of their movements, requiring the most intimate and profound knowledge of this science.

A general can send his aid, to any quarter where he wishes to give an order; the officer who receives it, knows from the aid, and frequent practice, how the general's ideas are to be executed, and acts accordingly: but how different is the situation of the Naval Commander? His only means (if the manœuvre is suddenly called for,) is the display of flags from his different mast heads, composed of different colors and so arranged by the numerical value given to each, as to designate the number of the signal which he wishes to have executed. Perhaps such a signal may require a perfect familiarity with the science of naval tactics, and also an uniform understanding throughout the fleet, of the particular manner of carrying it into execution.

Could all this be expected without a proper previous concert, and even plates in the signal book, to direct its exact perform-

ance? If this precaution was not used, the time that might be spent in considering and deciding how the manœuvre should commence and proceed, would prove fatal to the fleet so situated. A few minutes lost at so important a period would afford an active and skilful enemy all the advantages necessary to complete the overthrow of his pondering opponent. Is it to be supposed that commanders who have never seen this sort of service, and who probably have never exchanged a single idea on this topic with those whom they may be associated with, in this description of naval warfare, could, during the hurry of an outfit, find time to perfect themselves in a science, which requires the leisure of youth and the maturity of age, to acquire? Who can be so unacquainted with these matters as to believe it? If there *are* any, however, who have such influence as to induce a continuance of this inattention, or rather neglect, of this subject, I am persuaded that the day will come when, of all others, their situations will be the least enviable.

The *signals* should also be revised with the greatest possible care; they are, in fact, the tongue of a naval commander; he could do but little without them, and their importance must be conclusive evidence of the necessity of attention to them.

The examination of our midshipmen is also as improper and unjust, as it well can be. A midshipman, after being a certain number of years in the navy, and a portion of them at sea, is called upon to attend an examination, and answer certain questions; but what they are to be he knows not, nor never can by the present system, until he comes before the board, when it is expected that he will answer promptly all such interrogatories as may be put to him, and in any shape or form it may please his examiners to place them in. Now, to this mode of proceeding, I think there is the strongest possible objection; for on this examination depends the future prospects of a youth, who has devoted the most important portion of his life, and involved his character and feelings in a way to which no other class of persons have ever been subjected.

If you intend a young man for either of the learned professions, the whole subject appertaining to that which he is intended for, is laid before him; every case, which has been decided by approved precedents, is submitted for his information, and also the arrangements; and lectures generally delivered on those occasions. But how is it with the midshipmen of our navy? The books on such subjects are few, and so far as they relate to any instruction, to enable him to meet this examination, measurably inadequate.

All the questions, which may be considered necessary on the examination of midshipmen for promotion, should be established by an act of Congress, and laid before them from the moment that they first entertain an idea of naval life. This would constantly direct their attention to, and be the theme of conversation amongst this class of officers, and when doubts should arise in their minds as to the correct understanding of them, they would naturally refer to those whom they knew to be capable of removing them. Why should there be any mystery in the case? The examiners should

be bound to put the questions as they are written, and record the answers as they are delivered ; but if doubts should arise that the officer had committed to memory, answers that he did not understand, then it would be proper to enter into the most minute investigation of his profundity ; and if it were probable that he would not pass, this cross examination should also be recorded.

If one of these officers commits an offence of any importance, he is brought to a court martial, and tried for it, but not dismissed until the proceedings and sentence of the court have been approved by the highest authority. Now, permit me to ask, if there should not be some evidence of this description, deposited in the Navy Department, for examination ? In other cases as in this, would not the Government, as well as the officer, feel more confident that justice on all sides had been done ? May not prejudice and partiality sometimes operate on the minds of those who perform the duty of examiners ? Have not instances already occurred, which have produced dissatisfaction ? And if the questions are not established by law, what security has the nation that they are such as they approve of ? It may be urged that the honor and character of the examiners, should suffice. I am free to admit its respectability, but it is not the law of the land. It is true that midshipmen are allowed a second examination, but it frequently happens that neither the members composing the board of examination, nor the questions propounded, are the same ; consequently this second examination, is measurably as objectionable as the first.

It is surely a great compliment paid to the officers, who have had this authority vested in them, (and I hope and trust that they have never abused it ;) but it is that sort of honor, which reflection should teach them not to covet. This examination should be conducted agreeably to the nature of our other institutions ; as it now operates, it is certainly at variance with most of them.

The location of a Naval school, is also very important. For the best of reasons, it should be in such of the Navy Yards as afford the most abundant opportunities of familiarising the pupil with the various branches of duty which may hereafter be required of him ; the manner and methods, which are employed to move those ponderous articles, such as masts, anchors, guns, and also the invaluable acquisition of a thorough knowledge of the construction of ships, and of each and every description of the materials put on board of them. This general and minute knowledge, may be agreeably acquired in those situations. The hours of relaxation from such studies as require more intense application, may be advantageously spent in the observation necessary to perfect them in the mechanic arts, without which, no man can become a *great* officer.

The discipline and decorum of our Navy have suffered in a lamentable degree, and have long been on the decline ; instances have occurred, and been passed over, of such doubtful character, that it is to be feared, mistaken lenity, or an extension of partial indulgence, have become but too common.

I have long looked with the most anxious solicitude for some improvement in the condition of the warrant officers. I allude to the Boatswain, Carpenter, Gunner, Sailmaker, and Armorer; all highly responsible characters. They are the storekeepers and mechanics of the ship, and are as important to her welfare, if not more so, than those in any other community.

At this time there are very few of them in service, worthy of their situations; and while the pay continues so very inadequate to the support of themselves and their families, it cannot be expected that a better class will enter it. Their pay is now only about \$430 a year; it should be at least \$800; nothing less will ever induce efficient men to fill those stations. They should pass a rigid examination, and none but those who could give satisfactory proofs of their good character and qualifications, be admitted.

Volumes might be written on these interesting subjects, but I will indulge the hope that enough has been expressed to induce the powers that be, to give their attention and support to the advancement of these classes of officers; for without such improvements in the condition of our Navy, we can never have an efficient one.

I know that my assertion, relative to a Naval School, has been disputed; but in my judgment, by those who did not bestow the reflection, nor possess the knowledge, requisite to enable them to decide on the merits of the subject.

I would further suggest that a more scientific class of mechanics might be raised in our Navy Yards, at little if any, expense to the nation, provided a night school of mathematical instruction was established in aid of mechanic arts. I am persuaded that many of our most respectable citizens would then bind their sons apprentices to the Government. By an arrangement of this description, we should soon have our country furnished with that class of artisans which we require.

The Marine Corps, although last, is, in my estimation, far from being least in its importance to our naval prosperity. There is, however, the most positive evidence of the necessity for a change in the organization of this corps. It should be wholly naval, and the interests of its officers, and those of the navy, so united as to induce a better understanding between them.

Why should not a marine officer take rank in the Navy and become a member of it, if he can pass an examination that entitles him to it? Would it not be a just reward and an honorable acknowledgment that his time had been meritoriously employed?

In other services we see the officers of the Navy holding rank in the Marine Corps. This arrangement was doubtless intended to produce harmony, and it has succeeded.

These opinions and remarks are made solely with a view to the improvement of our Navy, and not one sentence which is written, should be otherwise considered, nor is the writer aware that they contain an offensive word applicable to any individual. I have selected this period, believing, as I do, that the administration and the Congress of the United States, are favorably disposed to investigate and promote them.

BARRY.

SCHOOL FOR THE RANK AND FILE OF THE ARMY.

Some time during the last session of Congress, Mr. WARD, of New York, of the House of Representatives, offered a resolution, the object of which was to introduce a new and improved method of recruiting the Army.

This resolution instructed the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the expediency:—

“ 1st. Of enlisting into the army, minors, from the ages of sixteen to seventeen, by and with the consent of their parents or guardians, to serve for the period of four years.

“ 2d. Of establishing schools at such military posts, garrisoned exclusively by the troops so enlisted, for the purpose of teaching such branches of education as will fit and prepare the soldiers for situations of usefulness in life, and of reducing their monthly pay in the ratio of two dollars for every five dollars now paid.

“ 3d. Of retaining the whiskey portion of the ration, to be paid either in money, military equipments, or in some suitable badge of honor.

“ 4th. Of exempting all such non-commissioned officers and privates, who shall have served for the period of four years, from militia duty, except in cases of war, invasion, or other public emergency; and that the committee inquire how far such enlistments and provisions may tend to destroy or lessen the evil of frequent desertion.”

The great amount of desertion in each year loudly called for some remedy. Whether that remedy has been applied by the changes in the laws with regard to enlistment—the mode of punishment—the improvement of the non-commissioned staff, &c., which took place subsequently at the same session, cannot yet be determined. It is very probable that much good will be effected by them. The term of enlistment having been diminished two fifths, diminishes in the same degree the impatience of the soldier under his temporary vassalage, and consequently the motives to desert. In like manner, the elevation in the character of the non-commissioned staff, which the change in regard to that branch of the service is intended to, and will without doubt, produce, cannot fail to multiply the guards which surround the rank and file, and keep them in the path of duty, and, what is more, make them contented to remain there.

The proposition of Mr. Ward did not come to any maturity of action, either because its novelty suggested the propriety of further consideration, or because a “ short session ” excluded all questions not of a peculiarly urgent nature. As he will probably renew it at the present session, it may be well to pass its scope and tendency under a cursory review.

Mr. WARD's plan was substantially this: to enlist minors, from the ages of 16 and 17, with the consent of parents &c., to serve for the period of four years.

To establish schools of instruction at certain military posts, which should have no other troops in them, when this corps should pass through the proper course of discipline &c.; the pay to be two fifths that now given.

To exempt all who shall thus have served, from militia duty, subsequently to their discharge, except in case of war, invasion &c.

Mr. WARD supported his proposition in a speech of much animation and pertinency. He has been connected with the regular service, and is the more able to appreciate the bearing of military subjects.

The Chairman of the Military Committee, to which the matter was referred, addressed a letter to the commander-in-chief of the army, asking his opinion of its expediency and practicability. Gen. MACOMB, in his answer, appears highly to approve the general scope and tendency of it, but suggests one or two important alterations. He believes that the period of life, at which Mr. W. proposes to begin the enlistment, to be too advanced, as boys of the age of 16 or 17, who would probably be permitted to enlist, are likely to have too many fixed habits, that might interfere with their docility and improvement; and proposes the age of 12 or 13, and to extend the term of enlistment to twelve years, or to the age of twenty-five. At that tender age he considers that there would be found a pliancy of disposition, and a freedom from all objectionable propensities, that would make the recruit a subject to be moulded according to the best forms of instruction. These boys are of course to be enlisted with the full consent of parents, guardians, &c.

When thus enlisted, this juvenile corps is to be collected at some suitable military post, where a school is to be established, to instruct the members of it in all the branches adapted to their age and the purposes of their enlistment. They are to receive clothing, not to exceed the quantity now authorized by law; three dollars per month the first three years; five dollars per month the next two years; after which they are to be mustered as so many corporals, with the pay belonging to that grade, and formed into companies, with a due proportion of sergeants, to be selected from the most worthy of them. At the end of three more, or eight, years, these corporals are to receive (always, provided, they merit the promotion) the rank and pay of sergeants, though subjected to the performance, in due rotation, of the duties of private, corporal and sergeant, according to such rules as the President should establish.

It is further proposed that these companies, thus organized and instructed, shall replace those now in existence, in due course of time remodelling the whole rank and file of the army. Also, that such non-commissioned officers as have served out, honorably, the full term of enlistment, shall have secured to them a chance for all such military berths as sub-adjutants, post-commissaries, &c., or the privilege of re-enlisting for any term, not less than one year, retaining all their claims to these berths, and other immunities.

These are the leading features of Mr. WARD's project, as modified by Gen. MACOMB. It is worthy of full consideration. Even if the late amendments in the laws concerning the army result in all the benefits expected from them, still this project, which may be found to promise much greater benefits to the military establishment, may be found deserving adoption. It is proposed that the

expense attending this change shall not increase that now incurred on account of the rank and file of the army. The objection that may arise in the minds of many who are to legislate on this subject, will probably be, that the first three or four years, at least, of these boys' enlistment will be without much, if any, military efficiency; that one quarter part of the army would thus form no part of our military defence. This objection, however, may be removed by the assurance of eight or nine years of more efficient service than can now be looked for from the present establishment.

The plan will open a wide field for instruction to a class of the community which stands most in need of it. It would form a sort of national school, against which the most fastidious could urge no imputation of an exclusive or aristocratic character; as it would receive too many *élèves* to partake of the former, and probably be filled up mostly of those having no pretensions to the latter character. Mr. Ward says that, if a school were established on such a basis, he would rather place a son of his in it, than at West Point. Even those who do not concur with him in such a preference, will be ready to admit, that there are no doubt parents and guardians enough throughout the United States, not only willing but desirous, to place their sons or wards at such an institution, who would soon fill up the complement. The period of life at which the enlistment is proposed to terminate, is scarcely within the threshold of manhood, and the young man would be well fitted to commence the career of private life, provided he felt no inclination to prolong that of a soldier. It is a part of the plan to instruct a certain portion of the boys in all those kinds of handicraft, which are useful in the army, and which form much of the business of life. Many will in this way be provided with a mechanic trade, affording them at once, on quitting the service, a profitable employment as a citizen.

There is another consideration which forcibly suggests itself to the mind, on reviewing this scheme. It is the beneficial influence it would be likely to have on the militia. This arm of our national defence has of late years fallen into much disrepute. Public sentiment, according to the tendency of reactions, has verged to an extreme on this subject. Because the militia has not received the best organization of which it is susceptible, it is not wise to disorganize it entirely. It has done the State some service, even as it is. Let it be preserved for the good it has done, and the good it may still do, until Congress shall think proper to attend to a part of its legislative duty, which it has now strangely neglected through a series of years, notwithstanding the loud reprobation of the public of such negligence. An establishment of the kind proposed by Mr. WARD, after it should be in full operation, would annually, through the medium of the discharged soldiers, distribute among the people at large, a number of young men, well instructed in all the elements and practice of military discipline, and capable of communicating, by precept or example, improvement in this respect to all around.

These are but succinct considerations, and but a part of those which the subject suggests. It may be, that there are more weighty objections to it than have occurred on the rather cursory view of it, which has now been taken. If Mr. WARD revive the proposition, it will doubtless pass under a mature investigation, such as will determine its expediency and practicability.

INFANTRY AND ARTILLERY.

To the Editor of the Military and Naval Magazine.

SIR:—In your February number there is a piece, signed ULYSSES, in relation to the Infantry and Artillery.

The proposed mélange of the Infantry and Artillery, if carried into effect, would resemble the team, with which Ulysses of old, ploughed the sea shore; so ludicrous, so anomalous and incongruous, that the idea was supposed to be the suggestion of insanity. The great prototype of the writer, wishing to change his situation, was defeated in his first, but successful in his second attempt. He first made suit to Helen, but despairing of success, he wooed and obtained Penelope. So our Infantry Ulysses may despair of obtaining his first, the Artillery, but may not despair of obtaining his second choice, if he should think proper to make it, and which may prove equally or more agreeable than the first. A change with the Artillery could not benefit the Infantry; it would not increase their pay, but would increase their expenses and retard their promotion; and as their object is, no doubt, to better their situation, their aim should be the Engineers, both corps and Topographical. Those corps would give them more pay and more luxurious and desirable situations. The more active and enterprising might arrange themselves among the Topographers, to the duties of which their situations on the frontiers, have afforded them opportunities of making themselves eminently qualified; and if any remained unprovided for, they might unhorse the Dragoon corps at the west. The dull management of heavy guns, in the fortresses on the sea board, could neither be agreeable nor useful to the mercurial spirit of Ulysses, who would take up the line of march from Green Bay to Houlton Plantation, thence to Boston and so on southward, to stop no one knows where. Such enterprise could never submit to be "*shut up in a small Fort.*" No, no! Ulysses is looking at too small an object, in asking to be metamorphosed into an Artillerist. It is just as easy to turn Engineer, and the Engineers, would, no doubt, be much indebted to the Infantry for an exchange, in order, that they might have an opportunity of becoming acquainted with that arm of service, so that in case of war, they might be qualified to command troops in the field.

"NE SUTOR ULTRA CREPIDAM."

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1833,

Kept at the Depot of Naval Instruments, Washington City.

Moon's Phases.	Day.	Barometer.	Temperature.	Dew.	Weather.	Direction.	Wind.	Force.	Rain.	REMARKS.
			Max.	Min.	Point.				in.	
1st Qr.	Sun. 1	30.090	47	45	40°	clear, foggy, hazy,	N E	light		
	Mon. 2	30.105	48	44	41	rain, foggy, hazy,	Calm N E	moderate	.2	Mean height of the Barometer, during the month, In. 30.106
	Tues. 3	30.290	48	47	43	rain, rain, cloudy,	N E	light		
	Wed. 4	30.342	52	47	46	cloudy, rain, cloudy,	N E	light		
	Thur. 5	30.390	50	47	41	cloudy, cloudy, clear,	N E N W	light		Mean maximum temperature, 44° 55
	Fri. 6	30.406	50	44	36	cloudy, cloudy, cloudy,	N & E	moderate		
	Sat. 7	30.370	49	43	41	cloudy, rain, cloudy,	N E	light fresh		Mean minimum " 35° 4
New M.	Sun. 8	30.020	45	43	41	clear, rain, rain,	N E N W	strong	.90	Mean dew point, 35° 3
	Mon. 9	30.025	45	43	36	cloudy, clear, cloudy,	N E S W	fresh		
	Tues. 10	30.045	46	33	34	cloudy, cloudy, clear,	N W	mod fresh		
	Wed. 11	30.193	48	30	35	cloudy, cloudy, clear,	West	moderate		Quantity of rain and snow fallen, 5.1
	Thur. 12	30.245	47	38	31	clear, cloudy, cloudy,	N E N W	light		
	Fri. 13	30.288	51	30	34	clear, clear, hazy,	N & W	light		
	Sat. 14	29.939	32	30	31	snow, cloudy, snow,	N E	hvy gales	4.00	
1st Qr.	Sun. 15	29.732	38	25	30	cloudy, clear, cloudy,	N W	moderate		
	Mon. 16	30.000	33	25	27	rain, rain, cloudy,	N E	gale	5.1	
	Tues. 17	29.275	42	37	38	cloudy, rain, cloudy,	E South	gale		
	Wed. 18	29.628	48	32	30	cloudy, clear, cloudy,	SSW NW	light		
	Thur. 19	30.150	40	35	32	cloudy, clear, cloudy,	N W	fresh		
	Fri. 20	30.305	40	30	32	cloudy, cloudy, cloudy,	N W	moderate		
	Sat. 21	30.130	40	30	32	cloudy, h't rain, cloudy,	N E	light		
Full M.	Sun. 22	30.160	40	32	36	cloudy, clear, cloudy,	S W N W	moderate		
	Mon. 23	30.150	42	29	36	cloudy, rain, cloudy,	N E	light		
	Tues. 24	29.850	43	36	39	cloudy, rain, light rain,	N E	strong		
	Wed. 25	29.762	40	36	33	cloudy, clear, rain,	N E S W	strong		
	Thur. 26	30.190	41	31	29	clear, clear, clear,	West	moderate		
	Fri. 27	30.130	48	29	31	clear, clear, clear,	N W	moderate		
	Sat. 28	30.125	46	28	33	clear, clear, clear,	N W East	moderate		
	Sun. 29	30.188	48	28	31	clear, cloudy, clear,	N W S E	light		
	Mon. 30	30.160	42	31	36	snow, rain, snow,	East	light		
	Tues. 31	30.010	46	36	40	hazy, foggy, mist,	Calm ENE	light		

KEY WEST.

To the Editor of the Military and Naval Magazine.

SIR:—Key West having been lately re-garrisoned by a company of Infantry, it may not be uninteresting to your military readers to be presented with a short account relating to its history. Key West is one of a number of Islands known by the appellation of "Florida Keys." It is situated in latitude $24^{\circ} 9' N$, and in longitude $82^{\circ} 6' W$. Its length (from E. to W.) is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and varying from one half to a mile in breadth. Its population, comprising all classes of inhabitants, is about 250. There are but few houses in the town, and these are principally situated on the beach. The inhabitants are frequently placed in unpleasant circumstances arising from an occasional failure in the supply of water; they depend entirely upon the quantity of rain-water which they can collect, and it is obvious that in a season of drought, where little rain falls, their distress arising from a scarcity of this necessary element must be great. In these seasons of privation, the nearest supply is obtained from Havana, but this city being situated at a considerable distance from Key West, the price demanded for water brought thence, is of course considerably augmented. It is true, that in the centre of this Island there are several springs of water, but these are of such a brackish quality as to be rendered totally unfit for culinary purposes.

The only importance of this island consists in its harbor; it has no commerce, neither as yet has the labor of the husbandman brought its soil into cultivation: its general aspect is the same as when it was first brought into existence, excepting where the habitations of man have supplanted the vigorous growth of the forest, or have redeemed the sandy shore from its pristine nakedness. Here are a United States Court, a Custom House, and two Light-houses, though I should not imagine that the duties received at the Custom House are more than sufficient to defray the expenses of its officers, together with those on attendance at the Light-houses. Its dues are derived from wrecked cargoes of foreign vessels, which are brought into the harbor and there disposed of, either by public sale, or by private composition with the owners, and the consequence is that every person resident on the island is engaged in one out of only two occupations; he is either a Government officer, or he is a wrecker. The ownership of this Island is claimed conjointly by four individuals: about three years since, after a time in which the shipping suffered heavy damages and loss, and when the coffers of the Custom House were unusually laden, it was represented to the Government that unless a company of United States troops were sent to the island as a protection, it was to be feared that the funds of the said Custom House would fall a prey to the lawless hands of piratical intruders. At great expense, and at some inconvenience, a command was in consequence es-

tablished at Key West, though their utility in such a spot is more than doubtful. The island itself is engirt with a protection of far more avail than can be derived from companies or regiments of soldiers; and, while the dangerous reefs by which it is surrounded continue in existence, it is but at a very small point where danger may be apprehended from any invasion. And at this point, viz: the channel of the harbor, surely much more effective precautions might be provided by shipping, than are furnished by one company of soldiers, stationed more than a mile from the only pass likely to be disputed. The Government have expended about \$40,000 upon this post, though its present conveniences would not be token an expenditure of one twentieth part of that sum. There is a large frame building erected, covered in only by a roof, and intended as quarters for the officers, but no workman has for a length of time back, plied his busy tool upon the edifice, and now it is fast going to rottenness and decay. Should it ever reach a period of completion, it is extremely probable that the first storm which may range among these desolate isles, will lay it prostrate with the ground, and reduce it to total ruin. As it exists at present, it would be difficult to assign its appropriate place among the orders of Architecture; in the Eastern States they would "guess" it was intended for a meeting house, by reason of a sanctified looking steeple erected on its roof. Besides this unfinished edifice, there are three or four miserable buildings, in which the officers and men are quartered; therein to be devoured by cockroaches, sand-flies, mosquitoes, and chigoes. These latter insects are by no means of a nature or quality to be trifled with, as the feet of many persons, citizens alike with soldiers, can testify. The climate is so hot, even at this period of the year, (January 14th,) that summer clothing is not one whit too cool. The troops are obliged to retire to rest with the going down of the sun, and ensconce themselves with all haste under the protection of mosquito bars; or, failing in this, they have to wage unceasing war with those insect tribes, whose aggressions are so troublesome, and whose arms are so potent—potent in that they possess the power to destroy comfort and to chase away sleep from the eyes of their victims. These are annoyances, together with one of a different species, but not one iota more agreeable in its effects, and which consists in the immoderate and exorbitant price demanded alike for articles of necessity and luxury. Talk of protection, indeed! An uninterested person would suppose that, instead of being the protectors of others, the troops themselves have a right to demand protection from them, suffering as they do from a combination of so many hardships.

Yours,

T. P.

ARTHUR TREMAINE.

A *Plebe*? Beeswax and buff sticks! Pork and molasses!
 Oh! take that back! you didn't mean to say so!
 I do affirm and hold, that of all classes
 There's none so awkward—none so long who stay so;
 That of the basest of the beastly race,
 A *Plebe* that's *base*, is the most beastly *base*!

There is a mark upon him, like the seal
 Upon the brow of him, who Abel slew;
 Which doth to all, his name contemned reveal,
 Which scarce a *year* of penance can undo.
 'Tis written on his forehead; namely:—Wit-
 Less—blundering—stalking—gawking *semi-cit*:
 But when he ventures out with *scales* at drill,
 He's just ten thousand times more *scaley* still!
 His belts are twisted,—and his forehead white;
 He always faces *wrong*—(though facing *right*.)

He *primes* his *barrel*, and he *loads* his *pan*,
 And *richochets* the powder in your face;
 And in the *Mess-hall*, gripes at what he can,
 And rudely calls the waiter to his place.
 He 'hooks' the pudding from his neighboring man;
 Or takes his seat before the word of grace.
 And when there's soup, he plunges like a loon in it.
 At tea, sends up his cup—with the spoon in it.

If by a flank you've ever seen him walk,
 You there may know him by his straddle wide.
 And you may know him by his fulsome talk
 Of buff-sticks—burnishers to bands applied.
 In fine, he is a breathing lump of chalk!
 Crocus and rotten-stone personified.
 Monarch of *rags*;—by *vices* round his throne,
 And sandy *wastes* (of paper) he is known.

Lampoon of a "Caitif."

I slept but indifferently well on the mattress, which I had procur-
 ed with so much difficulty; but there were other causes besides the
 extreme compactness of the cotton that composed it.

My chum with the ugly face, whose name I discovered was Snick-
 ings, was one of those unfortunate beings, who, in the process of sleep-
 ing, labour like an asthmatic steam engine. Our five mattresses
 covered the floor of our small room; and our proximity to one an-
 other, it may well be supposed, rendered a *snorer*, above all other
 annoyances, the most heartily to be deprecated. The inconve-
 niences of crowded quarters; our humble dormitory; and perhaps,
 the novelty of every thing around us, contributed to keep us awake.
 Even the stern injunctions "not to be late at reveillie;" and "not
 to talk after taps;" had not sufficient soporific influence to render
 me obtuse to the harsh and grating noises of Snickings. I supposed
 each of my companions to be in deep sleep, and was envying them
 the negative pleasure of being deaf to our obstreperous room-mate,
 whose intensity of breathings seemed every instant to increase, when,

suddenly, he reached a climax, and drawing in a monstrous breath, he uttered it forth, as if a last convulsive exhalation, and then was silent as a babe. "Thank God he's dead," muttered Joe Doane.

This most natural, though unchristian thanksgiving, coming, as it did, from one we supposed sound asleep, called forth a peal of laughter, which awakened the sleeper, and aroused the "inspector of the stoop," who lived in the next room. He raised our window and thrusting within a dark lantern, whose light fell on our suddenly relaxed countenances, ordered us, with a voice as grum as he could make it, to "stop that noise." Our chum, who had caused the commotion, was the only one who was not aware of its existence, and when the inspector opened the window and threw the light on his face, he rose bolt upright in his bed, and stared with most idiotic vacuity. His long red hair streamed on his shoulders; his long arms lay motionless on the bed; and his onion eyes displayed their full orbs; while his huge mouth was distended as if his nether jaw was absolutely dislocated. I thought it probable, that the inspector would be disarmed of his indignation at our violation of his orders, as he left us with scarcely stifled merriment; but he did not fail to "report" us all, "noisy in quarters after taps."

And now the ruddy-faced Aurora gently draws aside the sable curtain of night from the couch of drowsy Phœbus, and nature is viewed through the thin veil of twilight, which, like the gauze that rests on the bosom of beauty, increases the charms it half conceals.

The rubicund nose of Wallace is seen slowly rising above the brow of the distant hill, beaming with jocund brilliancy—the type and precursor of his glowing face, as is the morning star, of the bright king of day. He wends his waddling way straight to the guard-room door, and blows a thrilling note upon his shrill fife. The drums catch up the dying strain, and mingling their harsh roll with its music, through barracks, halls, and air, resounds—the *revellie*.

With many a sturdy oath, and drowsy sigh, the embryo heroes dismiss their dreaming visions, and rouse themselves—to go to roll call. Perhaps there's some more lazy than the rest, who reach a yawn, and fall to sleep again—while others, with the awful fear of "gross reports" before their eyes, are just enabled to dispel the vapouring influence of the blanched *somniferum*, as the last roll is "beating off."

With eager haste they seize their pendent garments, and rush with rapid strides along the "stoop," and down the stairs, to gain the gathered ranks before the word to "front." But ah! stern disappointment greets them from below, in the more stern command to "fall in the rear rank." Such was my fate, commiserate reader.

The morning call is over—and the hum of murmuring discontent breaks on the acute tympanum of the ear; and slouching forms, with loose suspenders dangling from behind, and disarranged habiliments, glide lazily along, in slipshod negligence, to snatch another wink of sleep before the wonted visit of the inspector. But hark! another drum calls to squad drill the awkward plebe—and thus, in modern style we introduce our first military exercise to our rampant pen.

My squad was soon organized by our Captain and placed under the command of Uriah Tompkins, who was however more generally known by the name of Turkey-paw. To those who are not skilled in etymologies, it may be well to trace the derivation of our commander's title. It was supposed by some who were reputed shrewd and knowing, that it was first given him because he was a noted "scrub;" but the most probable and authentic derivation springs from the circumstance of his having been appointed from Attakapas county, Louisiana. Hence Attakapas—Attakapaw—Takapaw—Turkey-paw.

The plain was lively with squads of new Cadets in every state of forwardness, from the facings to the manual. Groups of "caitifs" and "high privates," soon assembled to laugh at the awkwardness of the plebes, and to rally, now and then, the "squad-driver," on the elegance and precision of the movements of "his men." Snickings being the tallest in our squad flanked the right; and I being the shortest flanked the left.

Cadet Tompkins was extremely particular in his instructions, and emulous that his "men" should surpass all others;—for, Cadet Tompkins indulged a faint hope of being made a corporal. "Gentlemen," said he, "I will now teach you the position of the soldier." Squad, *attention*—put yourselves in line, gentlemen, heels together; feet perpendicular to each other; not so, Mr. Snickings—(Snickings had rested one foot on his toes making it perpendicular to the other)—at right angles, thus Sir: elbows close to the body; little finger on the seam of the pantaloons; don't spread open your hand so much, Mr. Snickings, thus Sir: draw in your chin—and keep your eyes fifteen paces to the front on the ground. *Halt*, Mr. Snickings, where are you going, Sir?" "To measure them fifteen paces," replied S.—"Take your place, Mr. Snickings," continued Cadet Tompkins, "and wait for the word '*march*' before you move, right *dress*—stand fast—don't look at your clothes, Mr. Snickings; front—left *dress*—cast your eyes to the left—front—very well, gentlemen—squad, *rest*; don't move your left foot; squad, *attention*—recollect the positions, gentlemen—throw out your chest and draw in your belly—Mr. Snickings, stand perpendicular on your haunches—don't be so constrained."

This it was impossible to avoid, and I was much disposed to sympathize with my unfortunate companion in the pain of the unnatural 'position of the soldier.' He made indeed a sorry figure. Imagine him with his chin close to his neck; his little finger pressed close against his leg, and his protruding hands wide stretched; his chest thrown forward, and his eyes firmly fixed on the imaginary extent of fifteen paces—and you will see an ambitious 'base plebe,' to whom nature had lent neither grace nor symmetry. Luckily, there were other squads to attract the gaze of the idlers around us, but none so awkward as ours. Poor Snickings retarded the progress of our improvement and lost to Turkey-paw the coveted corporalecy.

After the drill was over, in the afternoon, and we were dismissed, I returned to my room. Scarcely was I seated when there entered

two Cadets. One of them introduced the other to me, as Cadet Santin; and this one, introduced his companion, as Cadet Kader. "Cadet Santin is a statesman of yours," said Kader, "and desired to know you, and to offer you any assistance which you may need." I thanked him for his politeness, and begged them to be seated. "Perhaps, Tremaine," said Santin, "you would prefer walking on the bank of the Hudson." I replied, that if it was more agreeable, I would accompany them. I felt very proud to be thus noticed by an "old Cadet," and put on my hat with a degree of dignity I had never before experienced. On the stairs, I passed Joe Doane, and gave him a look, as much as to say: 'Cadet Doane, you see I am held in as much consideration as you, by the Old Cadets.'

"Tremaine," said Kader, as we sauntered from the barracks, "I want the twelve, to become known to you. They are bright blades all, I can assure you. We meet at Benny's every Saturday, and down to the cove, on other days; we have jolly times—eh, Santia?"

"We are every one high lads of fun, as the song goes."

"But is it not contrary to Regulations?" asked I.

"Phew!" exclaimed, Kader, "what are they? Regulations! Why, that's the fun of it, man. I would not give a tinker's d—n for the club, if it were not against regulations—ah, there's a glorious excitement, when Hitch or Zeb pops on us. Regulations! No man of spirit minds them. But I say, Santin, its too late to walk on the bank. Suppose we go to the soda shop? We can't get back before parade."

"Well, agreed," said Santin, "what say you, Tremaine?"

"I'm agreed," replied I, "to any thing you please."

"On the whole, I think we had better go to the Sody," said Santin.

This was a small apartment, in a small building, appropriated jointly, to the barber, shoe-black and confectioner. It was well filled with old Cadets, many of whom I recognised as "squad drivers," with some few "base plebes," who were eating almonds and raisins and sweetmeats with them.

"Mr. Nocksum," said Santin, "give us some almonds, and raisins and figs; and what have you there, fish?" "They are fine French Sardans, sir, one shilling a piece," answered the soda man. "Well, let's have some of them," said my statesman, "d—n the expense." "Tremaine, said Kader, "are you fond of almonds and raisins? If not, there are some fine cakes. Nocksum, knock some of them cakes this way." "What have you in that bottle on the shelf?" asked Santin. "Citron, sir," replied Mr. Nocksum. "Citron, citron; I'll try some citron. You are fond of citron, Tremaine? Here is some very superior citron. Help yourself." I thanked my very liberal statesman, and I ate to a surfeit, out of complaisance to him.

In a short time we had finished all we had called for, and had drunk several glasses of soda water, and, besides, my companions caused to be put up in parcels, a quantity of candy and cakes; "for," said Santin, "since we can't hook from the mess hall, as we have no fire to cook with, these will be *bunkum* about taps."

"How much is the bill?" asked Kader.

"Two dollars and three shillings," replied Mr. Nocksum.

"Two dollars and three shillings!" exclaimed Santin. "You have, Nocksum, knocked that sum up in no time. Why, I did not suppose we had eaten ninepence worth! Monstrous! Tremaine, my dear fellow, oblige me by the loan of a shin-plaster; say a V, and on pay day I will return it to you, if Tam finds a balance in my favor." I replied that I would with pleasure; proud to be of service to my polite statesman; though I thought it singular that he should have invited me to the soda shop, when he had no money to pay for his treat. However, it was very well accounted for, when we consider that the invitation was, *accidental*.

"The fact is," said Kader, seeing my purse tolerably well filled, "you will find but precious little use for your money, Tremaine; for Tam O'Pakir is a cute accountant, and as clever a fellow as ever trod shoe leather. He manages to keep me in debt up to my chin, and tells me, with the best face possible, that I am getting deeper and deeper. But when I try to find a mistake in the accounts, he runs over them in a jiffy, like a hound over a bramble bush—brings out the sum total with an emphatic flourish of the pen—and proves as clear as mud, that it's all right. Now, I would advise you, as a friend, to be careful of your money. If you wish to put it where it will be safe, give a skin or so of the rhino, to one of the "twelve," for Benny's treasury, and then you will have the enjoyment of it as long as you will. You'll find him a capital old cock, who will let any man go on tick, who crosses his hand, in a handy and handsome manner, beforehand."

By this time we had reached the barracks, where we parted; my friends promising to see me again, and myself five dollars out of pocket—a mere trifle, when compared with the honor of their acquaintance.

The following day is memorable to me as being the era of my first appearance before the Blackboard—that terror to all "fifth-section men;" that abomination of him who has to "'fess"—that delight of him who hopes to "fan."

It was some time afterwards that I found in the chalkbox, the following description of it, on a very dirty piece of paper—the effusion of one of the dapper rhymsters, who infested the corps about that time, and who, no doubt, thought to share immortal honor with the, then, new poet of Britain, by—copying his measure; as we see now-a-days, many ambitious young gentlemen, who hope to become a Pelham, by—imitating his follies.

I sing of Boards! and first there is a Quack-board,
Who *cure* in *theory*—in *practice*, kill.
A Board of *Visitors*!—and not a slack board,
As any one may be convinced who will:
But of all boards, protect me from the *Black-board*;
Its very name sends through my heart a thrill.
Avaunt! I have thee now before my sight,
"Darkest abortion of the womb of night!"

Thou art a strange anomaly ;—thy hue —
 Of every shade but what thy *name* would say.
 Description would attempt thee, if it knew,
 Which varied character to first portray;
 If language could but gain a single clue,
 By which thy many features to display,
 Yet will I strive, in numbers weak, to tell
 Thy hidden mysteries, I have learned so well.

And yet there is a charm—a spell, around thee,
 By science, daughter of creation, cast;
 That causeth me forever to confound thee,
 With all that's glorious, and with all that's vast !
 Oh ! breadth and length and depth are thine ! to sound thee
 The genius of extension shrinks aghast.
 Aye ! mighty is thy power ! for the knee,
 That never bowed to man, hath quailed at thee !

So vast are thy dominions, that the waste,
 Unbounded yet by man, is nought to thee :
 For on thy bosom, measureless, is trac'd,
 The time which reaches to Infinity;
 And there, revolving in their orbits plac'd,
 The mightiest planets of the sphere we see ;
 The lofty dome—the pillar'd arch is thine,
 Whose rays in mock illumination shine.

Thou art a thing *beloved*—for oft to "*fan*,"
 Beside thy place of rest, thy vot'ries go :
 And thou art too, a thing *abhorred*—for man
 Doth curse thee in his bitterness of woe.
 Oh ! who thy inconsistencies may scan ?
 And who thy varied opposites may show ?
 Would, I could hurl thee over with a frown !
 Aye ! would, I say, that I could *mark thee down* !

My first instructor in the abstruse mathematics of fractions and proportion, was a Cadet—young, but intelligent—"physically, a boy—intellectually, a man." He was "one of the five," and was selected for the duty of preparing the new Cadets for their initiatory examination. There was one brother 'plebe' of the section, who deserves a passing notice. He was from the west—the far west—and had never received any, the most fundamental instruction. He could neither read, write, nor cipher; he had not the faintest conception of "fractions, proportion, and the four ground rules." Of a consequence he did not pass the ordeal of the first examination; but being allowed, as is usual, till the September following, to qualify himself, he studied so assiduously, that he was admitted and commenced the term with his class of 114.

Suffice it to say, to prove the advantage, and to exhibit the effect of zealous perseverance, he rose in his class each year, and *graduated* respectably; a proud illustration of the success of humble merit, and of the impartial administration of Academic affairs. And he is now in the army, distinguished alike for his intellectual attainments and gentlemanly deportment—an example to the ambitious scholar.

I was at length initiated into the preliminary occupations of the 'base plebe;' that is, of a plebe who is not yet admitted; or, if ad-

mitted, has not his uniform—an animal held in most sovereign contempt by all supra-probationers, who have or are about to shed the exuviae of their plebeship, and on whom the wits of West Point are wont to vent their squibs, and the rhymsters their lampoons—*vide* the caption as a witness of my words. Luckily, I was entirely unconscious of my degradation in the eyes of these quidnuncs, and felt quite as proud of being a ‘plebe,’ as the third-class-man of his more dignified appellation of “*Caitif*,” the second-class-man of “*old cadet*,” or the first-class-man of “*high private*.”

There was no security, however, from their impositions on our ignorance. Poor Snickings had become quite notorious, and was “game” for these mischievous youngers. For Doane’s shrewdness ever enabled him to penetrate their designs, so that they found it necessary to enlist him on their side to effectuate them, and he never failed to communicate the designs of the cabal to me. On one bright evening he told me not to be frightened if I should be suddenly awakened during the night. A number of them, at the head of whom was “the Devil,” prepared an effigy of a Cadet, and tying a rope about the neck, they hung it before the window opposite to which Snickings slept; they then attached strings to the legs, and caused them to strike against the window, making the figure appear as if in the last agonies of death.

Snickings was aroused by the noise, and rubbing his eyes, beheld by the clear moonlight the horrid strugglings of the apparent suicide; and shrieking ‘murder,’ he rushed to the door, impelled by the benevolent purpose of relieving the unhappy Cadet.

The apparition of Snickings on the stoop, with his carrotty hair bristling up with the excitement of terror—his huge mouth wide distended, from which protruded his lolling tongue—was an image which startled the conspirators; and, I religiously believe, frightened them from the stoop, and compelled them to retreat, dragging after them the suppositious body, dishonored as the unconscious Hector’s on the Trojan walls.

A favorite amusement of the “*Caitifs*” was, to frighten the “plebes” by stories of the difficulty of passing examination. They told Snickings that he must learn fractions especially well, else “he’d be found;” and they gave him this equation to resolve :

$$\frac{8z}{n} + 2 - \frac{nx}{T} = 0$$

The simple-hearted Snickings, unfortunately believed *them* and despised *our* advice, and worried day after day in the snares which beset him. But now approached the examination so fearful to our tormentors, that our persecutions gradually subsided. In every barrack room, was to be seen the bended form and fixed eye of the studious Cadet, poring the concentrated might of intellect on the crows-feet pages of the mathematics, or learning with stopped-up ears the earful elements of chemistry. Visions, in horror rife, stole o’er

their *sleeping* fancy. Blackboards, and boards of visitors, and academic boards showed their portentous front in grim array. Their *waking* dreams of "zero marks;" of "'fessings;" remorse for idleness; and time mis-spent in tricking the poor plebes,—lent energy and acuteness to their excited minds.

The "Steward's House" displayed a different picture. The band commenced its twilight serenades, under the venerable elms, and the surrounding hills reverberated its lofty diapason. Around, delighted auditors gathered to breathe in, with the pure mountain air, the soul-inspiring harmony; erstwhile deep silence reigned; but now is heard the voice of joyous maidens, mingling its mellow music, with the melody of echo's murmur.

Here, was an assemblage of newly arrived "Visitors," listening to the conversation and cautious replies of the Superintendent. There, was a knot of New York idlers, whose precise business no one knew, but who bustled round the world, and lived—as it pleased God.

Ever and anon a sprightly, sparkling small-eyed man, mingled with the groups, convulsing them alternately with merriment, by jokes admirably well told. Those who knew him well, prepared their muscles for a laugh on his approach; and those who did not, were so taken with surprise by their unwonted cachinnation, they have worn a smiling countenance even to this day.

Such were the diverse occupations of the barrack room and the Steward's House, when I was called, and went to see *my father, who had sent me his card*, informing me he was on the Point.

I rushed with eager steps, and heart o'er flowing with joy, to meet him so unexpectedly, and would have thrown myself into his arms.

My father, as I before stated, was a very pompous man and had acquired a factitious hauteur, which he esteemed, and which others sometimes mistook for, dignity of deportment, but which seemed to freeze the warm feelings of parental love, and repulsed the impatient ardor of filial affection. He held out to me three fingers of his hand. "My son," said he calmly, "I am glad to see you." "Oh Father"—was all I could utter; for my emotions choked me. "Here are some letters, Arthur," he continued; "go read them, and come to me afterwards."

I took the letters and went to a back room in the Steward's house. The first was from my mother, addressed to *Cadet A. Tremaine*. It was balm to my soul and recompensed my feelings for the violence of my father's coldness. Oh! who can value a mother's love. It is beyond price. The bitter tears of disappointment flow with sublimated bitterness down the cheeks of the mother who mourns the degradation of her beloved child; the anguish of a mother's heart is concentrated misery, when the cause of it is her cherished offspring's unworthiness. But whose glory so great—whose proud affection so intense, as a mother's for a noble son?

Such is the faint transcript of my feelings after reading my mother's letter. The most lofty aspirations pervaded my soul. The

sternest resolutions to *deserve* academic excellence were then formed, and were—as evanescent as a boy's resolves!

I must pass over some of the most affectionate portions of my mother's epistle. But in passing, let me say to all young gentlemen about to launch into the busy tides and eddies of the world, to *read* and *study* the advice of Polonius to Laertes. And let all parents—who are at a loss what to say on such occasions—ponder it also, for *there* is the concentrated essence of the rules by which the former should be guided, and the condensed philosophy of parental advice. My mother's postscript was peculiar and expressive—"P. S. Cæsar sends best love—Your father is appointed one of the Board of Visitors—I enclose you *some money* for your essential wants."

The bank note, was, (some of my readers may suppose,) the *pith of the letter*. My "deposit" was very small. My pocket-money *all borrowed* from me, and my necessities augmenting; so I am willing to concede to such, that they have probability on their side.

The second letter was from my dear little sister, Marie, and was as follows—

My dearest ony, dony, brother

This is the first letter I ever rote, and if I make some mistakes you must not mind them because i love you dearly. Ellen is very well and wants me to give her love to you. George Emmons goes there very often and walks with ellen in the mall and he won't dance with any boddy else at the dancing school. Papa says he will take this letter to you. Carlo is well and so is Bantam, we have a nice time at dancing school—I think grenville temple is the handsomest boy there—I love you dearly—Miss Shaw says i may learn music soon—aunt Charity says she misses you—I don't like her a bit, so there now, I don't—she is so cross and chrochical. Rite me and tell me all about the place where you are—mama says I may come on to see you when she goes—don't let any boddy see this letter. I love you dearly—Sarah Otis gave a party the other evening and grenville temple came home with me—Cæsar walked behind, cause I rather come home with grenville temple. You are my ony doney brother.—i love you dearly. Now you must excuse all the mistakes for I have got a *very bad pen* and am in a *very great hurry indeed*. I love you dearly—rite soon do, that's a nice Arthur to your loving sister

MARIE TREMAINE.

P. S. I love you dearly. M. T.

The third letter was written in a crabbed hand, which I immediately recognised as my aunt Charity's. It was as follows:

NEPHEW—I hope you recollected all my advice, and have read your Bible—It is a good book, and there is no one needs the restraints of its precepts more than you—I say this in all lovingness, and with the warmest feelings of affection for you—I can assure you that I am actuated by the sincerest regard for your temporal and eternal wellfare, when I tell you, that you are full of rotten-

ness—If you do not forsake your wicked ways when you come home to see your loving aunt, your end will be miserable, and you will bring the *grey hairs* of your *parents* in sorrow to the grave.

I am now and ever,

Your loving and devoted aunt

CHARITY.

P. S. Your father has two pairs of nice woolen stockings that I have knit for you. I hope you keep the things in your trunk as I arranged them for you.

C. T.

Having finished my letters and pocketed my money, I returned to the groups assembled in and about the doors.

My father, who was speaking when I approached, was answered by an officer, to whom all paid great deference. "I am sir," answered he, "much of the same opinion—(smacks his lips.) But really, Mr. Tremaine, there are *some* points, (smack) in which I am obliged to differ,—that is, to agree—that is to vary, from you in sentiment—(smack.) *Literature*, Mr. Tremaine, is so *seductive* to the youthful mind, that I fear it would, if encouraged here, incline the thoughts of the Cadet, (smack) from the weightier—that is, the more serious—that is the *required* studies. *Not that I disagree with you in opinion*, sir—I shall always feel more secure in the correctness of *my* opinions, *when they coincide with yours*, Mr. Tremaine." With this remark he made a gentle inclination of the head, and a graceful motion of the arm to my father, who, it must not be forgotten, was a Visiter. The compliment to my father's judgment *told* excellently well, and mollified all opposition out of him. I sighed when I recollected, of how much service, a similar *tact*, as shown in the remarks of the officer, would have been to me on a certain occasion when the topic of discussion with my father was,—*Literature*.

I turned to another group, composed chiefly of officers, all in their gaudy uniforms. The point of discussion with them, was the construction of a late order, the ambiguity of which, afforded to each one an argument to sustain his individual opinion; so that no two of them read it alike, and every reading was equally authentic; *but this occurred a long time ago*.

As I wandered to another group, I discovered they were intent on a story of the bustling humorist I have mentioned, and who seemed entirely *at home* every where. As I arrived only in time to hear the conclusion of it, that is all I can relate—"So the Dutchman seeing the monkey in the rigging, throwing one dollar on deck, and then another dollar in the water, he tried to coax him down; but when he found he could not, he held up his hands in dismay, and exclaimed 'O! mine Got!—my milk monies!—my milk monies!—mine milk monies! there they go. Vell, it is a punishment from Got,—for—*what has come by water, does go by water!*'" which story as D—d used to say to C—d, "made a great laugh at the time,"—and will again when told by "mine host."

But hark! Tattoo beats to quarters. I must away or be 'reported.' But if once, in those days, you had a report recorded against you, the d—l himself could scarcely induce its erasure.

AMERICAN SEAMEN FOR THE NAVY.

It is a well known fact, that young sailors, bred up in bay and river craft, entertain a frightful idea of the discipline of a ship of war; but, once familiarized to the treatment, (which in general is not so severe or laborious as the merchant service) they become attached to it, and on all occasions where the national honor is concerned, prove their worth and valor. These are the men who have gained for this nation, the reputation of doing greater execution in battle, both with small arms and artillery, than has ever been experienced from our opponents. They are "jacks of all trades," quick in their movements, and capable in all cases of emergency to render the most valuable service. There are but few of them, who cannot handle tools to advantage, and in any case of necessity their mechanical training renders them vastly superior to common city-bred seamen.

It should be remembered, that we have not the advantage of a navigation act, and it is probable that our constitution will not authorize such a law. An apprentice boy is seldom seen on board of an American vessel, unless he is a relation either of the owners or the captain, and of such there are but few. It is therefore manifest that the coasting, bay and river trade are our principal nurseries for seamen, and *better*, for all the purposes of naval warfare, have never been furnished by any nation. They are generally honest, sober, brave and patriotic; and if commanded by thoughtful and prudent officers, who properly appreciate their feelings, will never fail to prove to their country, that their worth is quite as great as is here represented.

In a time of profound peace, our coasting trade is carried on in the most economical manner possible. The large size of the vessels engaged in it, and the comparatively small number of men employed in them, will not be found sufficient to transport one-third of the articles which must necessarily find their way from one part of our country to another, by such means as we shall be compelled to resort to, in the event of a belligerent interruption of our commerce in its usual channels. A vessel carrying 150 tons is navigated by seven men from Boston to New Orleans! Now, let me ask what number it will require to transport that bulk by any conveyance in-land, such as canals, rail-roads, wagons, trans-shipment, &c. &c? A relaxation, therefore, of any system, which now exists, or which may hereafter be adopted, for the increase and encouragement of our native-born seamen, will be found ruinous to the best interests of this country.

It has been urged by some speculators on the subject of the scarcity of American-born seamen, that a war puts a stop to so large a portion of our navigation, and particularly coastwise, that any interruption to either, foreign or domestic, throws so many of this class of citizens out of their usual employment, that the Navy would be manned immediately. This opinion is erroneous, and most positively denied. Let those who have a distinct recollec-

tion of previous events, produce an instance, wherein at any period of the late war with Great Britain, a sufficient number of native-born seamen could have been collected, to man one half of the ships which we now have. The very reverse of this opinion (founded in speculation only) is the fact.

It is a melancholy truth, which can be substantiated by many respectable officers, that at this time a very great proportion of the seamen employed in our Navy, are foreigners; and a large majority of our petty officers is composed of the same materials.* This circumstance appears to be one which calls loudly for the most serious consideration and speedy remedy; for it will be remembered that mutinous conduct, wherever it has occurred on board of our ships, has universally been traced to foreigners.

In suggesting a remedy for the evils here complained of, let us take for example, the great and patriotic State of Pennsylvania, and her magnificent emporium, Philadelphia; they are certainly too important to our Naval interest to be overlooked as they have been for many years past. The total absence of ships of war from the port of Philadelphia, is calculated to estrange from our Navy the seamen of the three States bordering on the Delaware bay, who are in the constant habit of visiting that city. An American man-of-war is seldom seen or heard of in the waters of the Delaware, and consequently few of them know any thing more of our Naval service than what they learn from common report, which is often exaggerated to its prejudice. Of this class of men, there are in the three States of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, including watermen of all descriptions, about eight thousand. If, therefore, a portion of our Navy made Philadelphia a place of rendezvous, taking care at the same time, to enter and discharge their men in that port, there is no doubt that it would have the effect of rendering the service popular, not only with the seamen of those States, but with every other class of citizens. At present, the Navy is *heard of*, but seldom *seen* there, and of course by no means as popular as a different state of things would make it. If therefore, an appropriate number of our men-of-war were attached to that station, it would employ from six to eight hundred seamen, a large proportion of whom would leave a part of their pay for the support of their aged parents, or wives and children, as the case might be, and consequently produce an effect on the minds of the populace favorable to the service.

Do not these remarks apply to every Atlantic State in the Union, where there is a seaport of moderate importance?

A distinguished Naval officer of our Revolution frequently (and shortly before his death) dwelt much on the difficulties of manning

* The writer of this article has met with only one officer of the Navy, who did not admit that half the able seamen were not American born; while the greater portion of those with whom he has conversed on this subject, acknowledge that from two-thirds to three-fourths are foreigners, and at least nine-tenths of the petty officers. This evil pervades also the merchant service, and is increasing.

our ships with American-born seamen, and urged it as a consideration of the first magnitude ; an opinion which, from the fact of his experience during our Revolutionary war, is entitled to great credit.

Another object highly interesting to this country, is the protection of its sea coast. Cannot a class of vessels be constructed, which would possess the requisite qualities for that purpose ? A ship, that would carry twenty twenty-four pounders might be so formed as to enter many of our southern ports, and would doubtless make as good way and weather as the nature of the service would require. If a class of vessels should be built for the defence of our coast, great breadth of beam will render them efficient in bearing the heaviest metal, and prevent them from sinking too deep in the water, to enter most of our southern ports. I am a decided advocate for the heaviest metal that ships of war can bear with safety, and a proper extension of their beam, from end to end, will allow of their being sufficiently sharp below, and, at the same time, present a long side above the water line, which will enable them to stand up under the greatest pressure of canvass. Such vessels would never lurch so low and dangerously as some of ours do. I have long thought that there never has been a vessel, having sufficient extent of beam to render her equal to what she would have been, had she possessed that advantage. This idea has been long entertained, but we may now expect to see the credit of it claimed in another quarter, as it is said that the British Government intends to build thirty-six gun frigates, six feet wider than they have heretofore been ; and other ships in proportion.

A distinguished officer of our Navy, as is understood, has recommended the employment of a coast squadron every year, during the summer months ; the object of which would be, to perfect the officers of our Navy in the practice of naval tactics and the necessary application of the signals. It may be objected to this disposition of our Naval force, that it will be necessary to form a depot in every port visited ; but I would ask, is this the practice with our squadrons on foreign stations ? Ordinary repairs and supplies may be procured at almost any commercial port, and vessels can return to the general rendezvous already established, whenever it becomes necessary to overhaul and refit. It is probable that another advantage might arise from it. As the term of service would be short, and the field of action more at home, our native seamen would the more readily engage in it, and consequently contribute to the removal of one of the most important difficulties, which has heretofore been experienced, and which is still to be apprehended, viz : *the want of American-born seamen*. Ships we can always furnish. Even in our Revolutionary war, there would have been no scarcity of them, if seamen could have been obtained to man them ; and if some more provident means are not resorted to, which may offer encouragements for greater numbers of our seamen to enter the service, and enable the Government to give them more constant employment, we shall never have what can be fairly termed an American Navy. When we look at the inducements

which are held out to our young men to emigrate to the west, where there are unoccupied lands in abundance, and reflect that the better part of them are brought up in the country, does it not admonish us that greater exertions than have been made, should be adopted to encourage their entry into the Navy; and does it not also, in a great measure, account for the over proportion of foreigners now employed in it.

There is another very great evil, which it is apprehended, is making its inroads upon our Naval service. I allude to the vast proportion of our young officers, who are unemployed, and of course exposed to the hazards of an idle life, which seldom fails to produce injurious effects. So great a loss of time, during the valuable period of youth, will in many instances operate greatly against their future improvement; for as a man grows old, he becomes ashamed to ask for information, which ought to have been acquired at an earlier period of his life.

The late order of the Secretary of the Navy, addressed to the Midshipmen, is probably one of the best ever issued from that Department; and in due season it will be acknowledged as such. But it has only in a partial degree remedied this evil. Sailors are not formed on dry land; the ocean is the field for that work.

About two years ago, a bill was reported in Congress for the creation of the rank of Admiral in our Navy,—a title, which appears to have given considerable alarm to some of our thorough-going republicans, but which, in itself, is a very innocent sort of rank, so far as it relates to the political concerns of our country, or the prosperity of the Navy at home; but it may be advantageous abroad. That bill proposed one Admiral and two Rear Admirals, and as it is presumed that the individuals to fill these stations would be taken from the head of the list of Post Captains, where two of them have stood for nearly thirty-five years, as equals, except the few months difference in the dates of their commissions, a flagrant outrage of rank would be committed, which might lead to other infractions of this vital principle of naval existence.

A more equitable plan, as it regards this delicate right of officers in the creation of new rank, would be, to commence with three Rear Admirals, and on a manifestation of desire to increase the number of that grade of officers, advance these three to the rank of *vice* Admiral; promote three Post Captains to the vacancies, and so on in succession until they reach the rank of Admiral.

Before any bill for fixing a Peace Establishment of the Navy becomes a law, some regard should be paid to the rights and feelings of the senior Lieutenants; *fifty-five* of these officers have held their present commissions, from 16 to 19 years, and at the present slow rate of promotion few of them can expect to live to reach the next grade. This is a situation they could never have anticipated, at the time of their entering the Navy; let them, therefore, and the passed midshipmen likewise, be promoted, or some measures adopted for bettering their condition, before any bill of the kind receives the sanction of Congress. Then, if it be necessary to fix

a limit to the number of officers, let it be done; and those who join the Navy hereafter will know what they have to depend upon. But, for the honor of the country, never permit that limit to go into operation, under any circumstances which can subject so many brave and worthy men to such severe heart-burnings and killing disappointments.

DALE.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE NAVY.

Before Congress give their sanction to the Rules and Regulations recently laid before them, I hope they will duly weigh and consider the effect that they are likely to produce on the service; and particularly that part, giving to the commanders-in-chief, captains, &c. powers to control and curtail the privileges of the junior officers. This is one great source of the discontent and misunderstandings, that daily take place on foreign stations. On the other hand, let the superior officers be strongly protected against any disrespect or a want of due obedience to their orders.

Now is the time to give the Navy a re-modelling, and an intelligible set of Rules and Regulations, under which it will improve and prosper. We do not deny, that the present set submitted to Congress, did not meet our expectation; it is in our opinion not sufficiently concise and explicit. We have no doubt that those who framed them, acted up to what they considered the best interests of the service; but we think they will scarcely meet the present exigencies of the Navy, and much less, for the time to come.

It is devoutly to be wished, that, as soon, as the new Rules and Regulations (if they ever do) should become a law, a pocket manual will be prepared, that all who are concerned, may provide themselves with the "bane and antidote." All we hope and trust is, that they may be so clear, explicit and short, (the latter not the least qualification of a military code) that "he who runs may read."

Will Congress ever do us justice, by giving us what we ask;—in the first place, rank—and, in the second, adequate pay? We find ourselves growing old, and yet stationary in our grade. They little know, or think, of the many mortifications we have to suffer; one or two of which we cannot help stating, although they may excite a smile. After ten or twelve years service, and one has passed the Rubicon (or his examination) and become a passed Midshipman, to receive a letter directed to only *Mid*. So cherished is the least distinction of grade among us, that even *passed* Midshipman is coveted. To give an idea how strong this predilection is in the service, I have known a Lieutenant, on being called

Captain for the first time by a beggar, to give the supplicant half a dollar instead of a copper; and I have heard of a passed Midshipman having quarrelled with a favorite relation, because he would persist, through sheer forgetfulness, in always directing his letters to *Mid*. We think it would be well for Congress, to take into consideration this our failing, and if they will not give us more rank, why change our names oftener. However absurd this may seem, I confess myself one of those, (and there are doubtless many others) who believe the thorn would not prick quite so deep if it were called by some other name.

While on this subject, I will just say a few words more in relation to pay, which is truly beggarly, and if it was not for the sake of gentility, I should call it wages. What is to be done with the service in this respect? Why, give us a little more sea pay, so that, as is said, we may grow fat, in order to prepare us for starving on shore; and when our "too, too solid flesh," shall have melted, favor us with an order again for some of our floating prisons, that we may avoid being incarcerated in one on terra firma; and as sailors generally choose the worst of two evils, we prefer going to sea, with the extra chance of being drowned. Whenever I am thinking on this subject, the observation of a superior officer of high standing, (now no more) and whose name is one of the brightest on the escutcheon of our country, made to my father, on being informed that he had obtained a warrant for me, is very forcibly brought to my mind. He said that my father had better take me to the river, tie a stone round my neck and drown me like a puppy. As this was said in my hearing, it astonished me at the time, but in truth I believe it was good advice. If I could then have judged and duly weighed all the mortifications and disagreeable duties I have since had to perform, with the pleasures and advantages I have enjoyed in the Navy, the beam would have turned for drowning. And yet I am told by some of my shore friends, that I too am to be envied!!

But I am now irretrievably bound to the service, in which I have spent more than half my life; although my youth is not yet exhausted, my hopes of distinction certainly are, and the burning thirst for Naval glory, with which I entered it, is quite extinct.

A more liberal compensation to the forward officers would secure those situations being filled by men of good character and high respectability.* It is this class, which more particularly sways the crews of our ships, being, as they always must be, intimately associated with them. Although sailors are generally believed to be a harum-scarum set of fellows, there are few individuals so easily led by a good example.

A. N.

* Lest my remarks should be construed as referring to the whole body, I would observe, that there are some among them who, in point of character and qualifications, would do credit to any service.

PROVIDENT SOCIETY.

In July last, actuated by the purest and most disinterested hope of being able to suggest a scheme that might eventually lead to something of permanent benefit to the Army and Navy, we proposed a few hurried, and, as it appears, ill-digested outlines for the establishment of a Provident Society. In doing so, we were certainly as free from the intention of provoking controversy, as we were from the arrogance of desiring to dictate to the officers of either service. But, though we had not the vanity to believe that our "hints" would be considered altogether worthy of adoption, or that the plan proposed was free from serious objections, nevertheless we did believe, and still believe, notwithstanding all that has been said to the contrary, that *it is possible* to form a society upon a basis that will secure a permanent provision for all who could be entitled under its regulations to make a claim upon the fund. We have not the time, even if we felt ourselves capable, to enter into the minute calculations necessary to demonstrate our proposition; and still less have we inclination to carry on a controversy with any individual officer, or body of officers, who may choose to think our scheme, or any scheme, absurd and impracticable. But it is due to ourselves to state, that, at the time we published our "Hints for a Military and Naval Provident Society," we were entirely unacquainted with the meeting and proceedings of certain army officers in Washington, touching the same subject, in 1828. Had we been in possession of their calculations and Report, we should perhaps either have refrained from meddling with the subject at all, or have gone into it with a determination to examine all its various aspects much more profoundly than we did. We must now, however, leave it to the officers themselves, who, being more deeply interested than we can possibly be, will no doubt after proper deliberation, come to that conclusion which shall be most beneficial for the service.

While upon the subject, it would be improper to pass over in silence the "Bill," which has been introduced into the House of Representatives by Colonel JOHNSON, chairman of the committee on Military Affairs, entitled "A Bill to provide for the support of the Widows and Orphans of such officers of the Army, as may die while in the service of the United States." Much as we desire to see a permanent provision made for the class of persons enumerated in the title of this Bill, we would not have it done at the expense of justice and constitutional rights. The proposition to *compel* the Army by one law, to give up any part of what another law has granted them without restriction, seems to us, as it has seemed to the officers at West Point, highly objectionable and unjust. We doubt whether, if Congress should be so little observant of the principles of equity, as to convert this bill into a law, its provisions would be enforced by any Court in the United

States. It would be manifestly robbing one portion of the Army, for the benefit of another—a pitiful attempt, on the part of the Government, to acquire the character of *generosity*, without its costing them any thing. We have no respect for the charity that gives away what does not belong to it. But as we shall lay before our readers both the Bill and the Protest against it by the officers at West Point, who have taken a very proper view of it, we need not add any further criticism of our own.

A BILL, to provide for the support of the Widows and Orphans of such Officers of the Army, as may die while in the service of the United States.

SECT. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That from and after the passage of this act, there shall be deducted, monthly, from the pay proper of the officers and cadets composing the military establishment, which now is, or hereafter may be authorized by law, per cent, for the purpose of creating a fund for the support of the widows of such officers of the said military establishment, as may die while belonging to the same.

SECT. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the funds which shall thus accumulate, shall be distributed to the widows and orphans of the deceased officers, according to the rank, and according to the monthly contributions made by them respectively at the time of their decease, provided that the monthly pension to the widow and orphans of any officer shall not exceed two-thirds of his monthly pay at the time of his decease.

SECT. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That where a deceased officer leaves a widow, or if no widow, a child or children, such widow, or if no widow, such child or children, shall be entitled to receive the monthly pension that may be established at the decease of the officer; the said monthly pension to continue to the said widow until her death or intermarriage; and in case of her death or intermarriage, the said monthly pension shall go to the child or children of such deceased officer, in equal proportions; provided the male children shall be under the age of eighteen years, and the female children be single, and as long as they may so continue.

SECT. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That until the state of the fund accumulated shall be sufficient to provide pensions, equal to two-thirds of the pay proper of deceased officers, the pensions shall be established annually, on the 1st of January, for the widows and children of deceased officers of every grade, according to the state of the funds; provided that whenever the funds will admit of the payment of the full pension of two-thirds of the pay proper of the deceased officer at the time of his decease, two-thirds shall be the fixed rate of pension.

SECT. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That there shall be established a Commission for carrying into effect the object of this act, and for the management of the funds hereby created; which Commission shall consist of the Commanding General of the Army, the Adjutant General, the Quarter Master General, the Commissary General of Subsistence, the Surgeon General, and the Pay Master General; any three of whom, may constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

SECT. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the Pay Master General, and the officers of the Pay Department, with the assistance of the clerks of that Department, to make the deductions from the pay of the officers and cadets, as directed in the 1st section of this act; and to make all payments and disbursements, and to keep all accounts connected with the objects of this act, as well as a record of the proceedings of the commission mentioned in the 5th section.

SECT. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the said Commissioners, and the officers of the Pay Department, shall perform their respective duties under such regulations as shall be established by the Secretary of War.

CIRCULAR.

U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY, WEST POINT, N. Y. }
January 20, 1834. }

Gentlemen: We, the undersigned, have been directed by the officers at this Post, belonging to the Military Establishment, to inform you, that there has been lately received here, "A Bill," which has been twice read in the House of Representatives, "to provide for the support of the widows and orphans of such officers of the Army as may die while in the service of the United States," the provisions of which are—

1st. To create a fund by a deduction of 2 1-2 per centum from the pay proper of the officers and cadets composing the military establishment.

2d. That the pension to the widow and orphans of any officer shall not exceed two-thirds of his monthly pay at the time of his decease.

3d. That after the death or intermarriage of the widow, the pension shall go to the children in equal proportions; to the male until the age of eighteen, to the females as long as they may continue single.

4th. That until the fund be sufficient to pay the above amount, the pension be established according to the state of the fund.

5th. That the commission for carrying into effect this act consist of the Commanding General of the Army, the Adjutant General, the Quarter Master General, the Commissary General of Subsistence, the Paymaster General, and the Surgeon General.

6th. That this commission perform their duties under the regulation of the Secretary of War.

The letter accompanying this Bill, from a member of Congress, says, "It is generally believed here that all of the officers of the army are in favor of the measure—if that be not so, they had better remonstrate against the Bill."

Believing it of the utmost importance that the opinions of all interested in the proposed measure should be promptly expressed, the officers at this post have taken the subject into consideration; and having arrived at an unfavorable conclusion, have transmitted a memorial to Congress against it; and now, in hopes of the co-operation of our brother officers, present to you the reasons that have guided us to our conclusions.

We must premise our objections with the remark, that none of our observations are intended to apply in any way, to the establishment of a *voluntary* association, for this or any other purpose. The only objections that we could have to such a society, would be those which would operate upon us individually to decline becoming members of it; but we do oppose, and must earnestly protest against, any *legislative* interference with the *disposition* of our property.

The plan proposed, will appropriate a portion of the pay of more than one half of the officers of the Army, to the exclusive benefit of the remainder;—and this too, in many cases, against the wishes of those interested. However willingly we may tax ourselves for the comfort of those left destitute by our brother officers, we are unwilling that others shall determine the occasion, or measure the amount of our charity, nor can we believe that any officer could consent that his family should receive the advantage of such involuntary contribution.

There are many officers who devote all that can be spared of their pay, to the support of others besides wives and children, and perhaps remain single for the very purpose of fulfilling this duty; according to the proposed plan, these must divert a portion of the amount so devoted, to assist in raising a fund of which they never can reap the benefit.

The pensions would undoubtedly in many cases go to those who had no want of them—those who would be left with a property amply sufficient for their support: nor could this be prevented, unless by the introduction of incalculably greater evils:—as any other provision would make it the interest of the officer

not to accumulate an estate; and his prudence to consist in living up to, or beyond, his means.

These are some of our objections to the proposed measure, but the greatest one remains behind, and that is, the *principle* which the *Bill* establishes, viz:—That an officer's pay may be stopped for the establishment of any charity that is connected with the service. We can see nothing in the nature of the plan here considered, that limits it either to the amount or the objects mentioned in the *Bill*;—should the assessment of 2 1-2 per centum be not sufficient, what shall prevent, what shall limit its increase? or what reason is there, why we should not be taxed for the support of officers who may retire from service—the establishment of a military Hospital—the support of the families of soldiers—or any of the thousand charitable projects that may be started? We do not fear that Congress will directly diminish our pay; but we do fear, and we trust our brother officers will join with us in opposing, this indiscreet and indeterminate appropriation of it.

Should these reasonings, however, not produce the same effect in the minds of others that they have in ours, the following calculations will, we think, show that the project is impracticable; inasmuch as the fund created by an assessment of two and a half per centum, will not be adequate to carrying into effect the object proposed by the bill.

The number of Officers belonging to the Military Establishment, according to its present organization, is (a) 733.

The proportion of those who are married is (b) 15-32's

The yearly average of deaths is (c) 18.

The No. of Officers who will probably leave families is (d) 8 7-16's.

The *pay proper* of Officers belonging to the Military Establishment as above, is (e) \$325,994.

Pay proper of 235 Cadets, is (f) \$45,120.

Two and a half per centum on the *pay proper* of Officers and Cadets, \$9,277.

Average *pay proper* of Commissioned Officers, \$444.

Two-thirds of which is \$296.

The average duration of human life between the ages of 21 and 50 (at which time nearly all pensions would commence) is 22 1-2 years; but as the pensions to males will cease when they are 18, we have not carried the table beyond the 18th year.

A TABLE—showing the operation of the proposed fund, for allowing a yearly annuity of \$296 each, to the widows and orphans of eight officers, of the Military Establishment; predicated on an assessment of 2 1-2 per cent. per annum on the *pay proper* of all Officers and Cadets.

Years	Capital beginning each year.	Interest on Capital 4 per cent.	Amount of Principal & Interest.	Amount of Annuities.	Balance.	Yearly Contribution.	Proportionate Annuity.	No. of Annuitants.
1	\$ 9.277	\$.371	\$ 9.648	\$ 2.368	\$ 7.280		\$396.00	8
2	16.557	.662	17.219	4.736	12.483	9.277	396.00	16
3	21.760	.870	22.630	7.104	15.526	9.277	396.00	24
4	24.800	.992	25.795	9.472	16.323	9.277	396.00	32
5	25.600	1.024	26.624	11.840	14.784	9.277	396.00	40
6	24.061	.962	25.023	14.208	10.815	9.277	396.00	48
7	20.092	.803	20.895	16.576	4.319	9.277	396.00	56
8	13.596	.543	14.139	14.139	—	9.277	220.92	64
9	9.277	.371	9.648	9.648	—	9.277	134.00	72
10	9.277	.371	9.648	9.648	—	9.277	120.60	80
11	9.277	.371	9.648	9.648	—	9.277	67.00	144

From this table it appears that the fund commences to diminish in the fifth year; that in the eighth year it is no longer large enough to pay pensions of two-thirds of the average *pay proper*, and that the pensions for that year will average \$220 92-100 each. For the tenth year they will be \$120 60-100; and

so on diminishing until the eighteenth year, in which we suppose the number of pensioners to be at a maximum; at which time the average pension will be \$67.

We have found that it would require at least 10 per cent. on the pay proper of Officers and Cadets to maintain a yearly addition of eight annuitants, at the rate of annuity proposed to be given.

JNO. FOWLE, Major, 3d Inf.

N. TILLINGHAST, 1st Lt. 7th Inf.

C. F. SMITH, 1st Lt. 2d Art.

Committee.

- (a) This includes the Professors and Teachers at the Military Academy.
- (b) It has been found that out of 630 Officers, 295 are married or have families; therefore as 630 : 295 : 733 : 343.
- (c) The Committee appointed by the officers at Washington in 1828 to report on the subject of a Provident Society, found by an examination of the Army Registers, that there was a yearly average of deaths among the Commissioned Officers of 13 1-3. The number of Officers then in the Army was 542; therefore as 542, 13 1-3; 733, 18.
- (d) Being 15-32 of 18.
- (e) This does not include the extra pay enjoyed by Officers of the line temporarily in the staff: as, Aids-de-Camp, Adjutants, &c.
- (f) The monthly average for the five years ending the 31st Dec., 1833.

OGLETHORPE BARRACKS.

SAVANNAH, December 28th, 1833.

At a meeting of the officers on this station, it was

Resolved, That we concur in opinion with the officers of Hancock Barracks, in appointing a delegate to meet those from other Posts, at Washington City, on the second Monday in March next, to aid in forming a Provident Society.

Resolved, That we appoint Lieut. M. M. Clark, to represent us.

CHA'S. S. MERCHANT, Bvt. Captain, U. S. Army.

J. MACKAY, Lieutenant 2d Artillery.

JOS. K. F. MANSFIELD, Lt. Corps of Engineers.

J. GREEN, Lieutenant 2d Artillery.

R. WAYNE, M. D., Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army.

M. M. CLARK, Lieutenant 2d Artillery.

Lt. Whitely, whose signature was affixed to our former Resolutions, is now absent: were he present he would no doubt concur with us.

FORT PIKE, LOUISIANA.

The undersigned, Officers of the Army, stationed at Fort Pike, Louisiana, aware of the importance of establishing a "Military and Naval Provident Society," very cheerfully proffer their names for enrolment, on the Constitution of that, now in the progress of formation.

The proceedings of their brethren at Hancock Barracks, Me., meet with their unqualified approbation, and they readily subscribe to the resolutions which those gentlemen adopted on the subject, in November 1833.

A delegate to represent the Officers of this Post, will be appointed whenever an intimation of the time and place of Convention shall be manifested.

To the gentlemen who have preceded them in this philanthropic enterprise, and to whom all the credit will be due in the event of its success, the undersigned tender their very sincere acknowledgments.

JNO. MOUNTFORT, Major U. S. Army.

J. A. CHAMBERS, 1st Lieutenant U. S. Artillery.

LUCIUS O'BRIEN, M. D., Assistant Surgeon U. S. A.

JULIUS A. d'LAGNEL, 1st Lieutenant U. S. Artillery

FORT PIKE, Louisiana, January 7th, 1834.

FORT JACKSON, LOUISIANA.

At a meeting of the officers stationed at Fort Jackson, Louisiana, on the 30th December, 1833, it was

Resolved, That we highly approve of the proposition, contained in the July number of the Military and Naval Magazine, for organizing a Provident Society for the support of the Widows and Orphans of deceased officers, and that we pledge ourselves individually, should such a society be formed, to become members of it.

N. BADEN, Captain 2d Artillery.

T. J. WILKINSON, Lieutenant 2d Artillery.

B. RANDALL, Assistant Surgeon.

INFANTRY AND ARTILLERY.

An ingenious writer, who signs himself "Ulysses," in the February number of the Magazine, has revived, we observe, the prolific topic of "Infantry and Artillery,"—and would again tempt forth, upon the field of controversy, the antagonist interests of those two corps of the army. Ulysses presents himself to us, with an air of candor and amenity, so specious and insinuating, that we cannot but yield him our attention, and are well nigh tempted to abandon him our confidence also. Discarding, generally, the foregone arguments of his predecessors upon this question,—and quoting with all plausible acceptance the premises even of his adversaries, he proceeds to the net work of his own adroit logic, first with a small thread of anecdote, and then with a slight twist of sophistry, until we find ourselves imperceptibly led to this most rare conclusion, viz:—that the great desideratum now in the education of our officers, is "an acquaintance with the topography of the frontiers;" and that this, with the collateral benefits "of acquiring, by habit in the field, a rapid conception of the advantages and weaknesses of positions," can best be attained "by certain periodical changes of position of the troops of different arms." In furtherance of this object, he recommends an "annual exchange of stations" among the different garrisons, and "occasional excursions" besides "into the adjacent country, with a view of studying the topography" thereof.

Here then we have a precious programme for the systematic employment of our army, the results of which are to be so obviously salutary, in the opinion of Ulysses, that no other reason seems necessary in his view, to recommend its immediate and unqualified adoption. Marshal Saxe would rejoice to witness so glorious a consummation of his *sumum bonum*. Why, it would not be long before our army would become all *legs*; and our brains all "topography!" Under such a trotting regimen as this, however questionable might be the possible expansion of Intellect among us, no one could long doubt our supremacy in that most important attribute of military efficiency, *Locomotion*.

But the argument of Ulysses, after all, is not inferior in cogency and point, to even the best that has yet appeared on his side of the question, although he may possibly regard this as no very flattering admission. We will not now recapitulate those arguments, or even revert to them farther than to say, that we think they have been already fairly answered, and most thoroughly refuted. Some views of the subject, however, still remain to be presented, (and to which we shall confine ourselves,) having reference not so much to matters of public expediency, as to individual rights and privileges.

That there does exist among certain officers of Infantry, a wish for some change by which they can succeed to the occupancy of the Atlantic posts, is a position we are inclined to assume, from the belief that the advocates of the measure in the Magazine, have been uniformly of that arm of service. But the fact that such a change would be desired by a majority of all the officers of Infantry is yet far from being demonstrated. Neither is it by any means certain, that among the *junior* grades of artillery, there might not be found a majority of officers who would cheerfully consent to it. The increased chances of promotion, thus offered to these junior grades, by a transfer to the West, would far outweigh all opposing considerations, even if such considerations were proved to exist. Whatever might be the advantages or disadvantages promised by the change suggested, they would be principally reaped by officers of rank, and any strong desire on the one hand, and repugnance on the other, that might be felt for the measure, would naturally be confined to them. The Artillery posts are comparatively numerous, and the Regiments with which they are garrisoned are so subdivided, that separate commands are very generally distributed even throughout the grade of captains. Here then we arrive at the main gist of the argument. Independent commands and double rations are palpable weights in the scale of ratiocination,—and so far as the enjoyment of these by individuals, can be properly attributable as an advantage enjoyed by a whole corps,—the artillery must yield the predicament.

But admitting, for the sake of argument, that this partial allotment of favor does constitute a certain weight of advantage in the artillery scale, and superadd, if you will, all that has ever been assumed or imagined of their extra privileges,—what, let us ask,—what is there in all this to compensate the artillery *subaltern* for his ill-starred fortunes? He the representative of that numerous grade which constitutes the mass of his corps! What share of the privileges in question ever descends to his subordinate sphere, or what the auspices that light upon his path?

Graduated at the Military Academy, high in proportion to his moral and intellectual desert, and taught to believe that a military commission, appropriate to his talents, and commensurate with his merit, would be the certain recompense of his exertions,—he is appointed to the artillery! An award which he fondly dreams must carry with it some definite and acknowledged distinction,—

some corresponding immunity, conducive, at least, to honorable repute, if not to substantial benefit. A dream, alas! it proves. His subsequent career is shortly recited. A garrison soon receives him. The mechanical routine of daily drill and guard duty, constitute the chief or only calls upon his official attention,—services, just sufficient to check the current of his social intercourse or interrupt his intellectual pursuits, without adding one ray of intelligence to his mind or one new spring to his ambition. Those scientific attainments, the fruit of so much emulous strife and industry at the Academy, meet no demand at the hand of Government, and but for a noble and resolute course of self-discipline, energy, and diligence, they are in danger of being lost, even to himself. Disappointed with his own prospects, he looks abroad upon the fortunes of his peers, and compares his own, with the auspices which seem opening to them. He sees first, his class-mate the Engineer, he who stood but one above him on the academic roll, already placed upon a theatre of high and useful intellectual employment,—his talents drawn forth into constant and vigorous exercise,—his scientific knowledge called into requisition upon the most ample scale,—his ambition stimulated by a sense of the exalted and responsible duties devolving on him; in short, all the faculties of his mind are kept bright and strong by the very nature and requirements of the profession he has embraced.

On the other hand, our votary now looks round for his class-mate, the Infantry graduate. He whom he had outstripped and distanced on the academic course, by a full score at least. And where is he? His initial year was spent at a post at the far west,—or peradventure, at that paradise of stations, Jefferson Barracks. He soon succeeds to a first lieutenantcy. Soon after is regaled with a tour of recruiting service,—becomes a traveller,—a sportsman, a man of the world, and forthwith,—a CAPTAIN. And thus,—while our young artillerist, gentle exemplar of patience and contentment! sits ruminating in his little insulated garrison, upon imagined honors, a second lieutenant still,—his rival, the academic delinquent, once so much in arrear upon the class rolls, has pushed forward on the wings of his better fortune, enjoying privileges and opportunities by the way, surpassed by none within the precincts of the artillerist's experience, and at length steps forth crowned with substantial promotion,—every inch a captain,—now and forever the official superior of him whose higher academic attainments were once thought to imply a specific claim to precedence. And what becomes of the honor, the distinction, the éclat,—those visionary but still valued rewards for intellectual enterprise? All gone! No one recollects them now,—or recollecting, yields no homage to their worth. Every symbol of distinction is soon obliterated, save only the color of the button, and even this is merged in the all-amalgamating system of transfers.

Let us not be misunderstood. We make no allusion to the relative merits of individuals composing the respective corps. The infantry is unquestionably officered by gentlemen of as high

personal worth, endowments, usefulness, and efficiency, as is the artillery. But Government has established a system, with regard to the appointment of graduates from the Military Academy, which assumes to adjust an officer's military functions, employments, and immunities, by a scale proportionate to his academic desert. It is this *system*, with its results, and consequences, bearing as we think they do, with such adverse influence upon the interests of the artillery, that forms the subject of our animadversions. The subject, in this sense, is assuredly a fair one for criticism. We have no intention to draw invidious comparisons between the different arms of service, though in sketching the portraiture of an artillerist's destiny, we may not always avoid the introduction of a contrast.

The distance between command and obedience is infinite! No consideration of climate or station,—society or solitude,—labor or leisure, can compensate an officer of an ambitious spirit, for the loss of rank. Enumerate all the privileges, real or imagined, which are supposed to attach to the artillery,—and multiply them by every consideration which a jealous fancy can array, of partiality or favoritism,—and what adequate recompense, what consolation, is offered to the abiding, long-suffering spirit of that most steadfast of all military fixtures, an artillery Subaltern? In comparison with the “privileged” votary of this “scientific corps,” the *Marine* runs riot in indulgences. He receives his Brevet, for the asking,—and his Brevet upon Brevet. But what hope has the veteran artillerist of his? What longer term of sickening abeyance and hope deferred, will entitle him to that precious pittance of legal justice, which theoretically secures him against the inequalities of regimental promotion? A provision alas! “that keeps the word of promise to our ear, but breaks it to our hopes!”

And the Engineer: how glorious comparatively is his allotment! On the first receipt of his commission, albeit half unfledged, he is called to the discharge of most important trusts; sent to build forts, perambulate rivers, lay out boundaries, roads and canals, enjoying the while, an independent control, and advancing rapidly in the scale of promotion. Is the artillerist (his academic junior by one) so very much less fitted for these employments than he? Details for extra service, it is true, are regularly made from the artillery, and duties of the most honorable and improving kind are frequently imposed; but these duties are all temporary and determinate in their nature, subordinate and onerous, without any of those ulterior prospects of professional reward, which incite the Engineer and teach him to believe that every present effort of scientific enterprise, is one additional stone in the fabric of his future fame.

The Ordnance, Infantry, and Dragoons have each their respective advantages, resulting from organization or peculiarity of service, which superinduces rapid promotion and all its substantial consequences. But the artillery is unfavored by any of these, or by any substitutes, that can compensate for the evils with which its present condition and prospects are invested.

A correspondent of the Magazine, who signs W., has declared that the artillery are in possession of the most pleasant and desirable posts, that they have held these so long, and by an assumed right so prescriptive, that a removal would now be regarded by them as a violation of prerogative. How this may be among the higher ranks we know not; but in the subaltern and more numerous grades, no such views we think are entertained. Nor is it easily shown in what the superior pleasantness of the atlantic posts consists. Few of them are in such close proximity to towns or cities as to afford to the officers a free social communication with the polite circle of civil society. Most of them are absolutely insulated and all more or less remote, so that such interchange, when not entirely obstructed, is felt to be extremely limited and embarrassed. He that has once been a tenant of Fort Independence, Wolcott, Columbus, Johnson or Moultrie, would never languish at Green Bay, Houlton, Niagara, Sacket's Harbor, Baton Rouge, Pensacola or New Orleans. And who can point out that Infantry post, be it on the extremest limit of the inland frontier, which can compare for utter solitude, for drear, relentless desolation, with Fort Pike; Wood, Jackson, or St. Philip? Who would not prefer the wild, free range of the trackless west, though secluded from civilized society, yet rife of sport and game, of enterprise and adventure, to a little island residence in one of our harbors; the sight indeed regaled with the tantalizing view of a distant city, but the impatient spirit, the impotent will, the languishing body, enthralled, hemmed in, pent up, and trammelled, not more inexorably perhaps, by the circumscribing barriers of the water, than by the capricious behest of the irresponsible martinet, who happens to be in command. Of all possible stations, save us from an island!

We have ventured to doubt whether there could be found in the Infantry, a majority of officers, including the junior grades, who would approve the adoption of such a system of change as has been suggested by some; or that in the junior grades of artillery, there might not be found many, who would rejoice in a transfer to the west. But in both corps, there prevails no doubt a very general repugnance to itinerancy, to a system of perpetual motion, with all the consequent inconvenience and expense so peculiarly burthensome to a married officer; the continual disruption of local ties and all the contingent drawbacks and vexations which present our domestic circumstances in such mortifying contrast with those of our peers in the corresponding scale of civil life.

Instead of studying "topography," after the plan of "Ulysses," our time would be far better spent in studying books. The perigrinating school of discipline might be highly advisable for a corps of Douaniers on an active smuggling frontier, or for our Dragoons in the west, while there remains an Indian foe to be disarmed or intimidated. But to institute any course of service, in the present circumstances of our army, that would so inevitably absorb an officer's leisure, and obstruct his mental improvement, would be to postpone all the claims of intellect, and reduce us to the humble level of automota.

If we rightly understand the design of this nation in supporting a Military Academy and sustaining a military establishment organized like ours, it is for the creation and preservation amongst us, of military science; the development and exaltation of MIND. In this halcyon period of our national prosperity, it can scarcely be presumed that the army is maintained for purposes of active service merely, but rather as a nursery of Commanders; a conservatory of military knowledge and genius, from whence may be drawn, in all times of public exigency, that cultivated and accomplished intellect, which would be required to supply the general staff of an expanded military establishment. We are accustomed to boast of the military academy as a safe and efficient substitute for a standing army in time of peace! It is a substitute only in this sense. The mass of scientific knowledge acquired at that admirable institution, inculcated with such care and purchased at such expense, is too valuable to be frittered away, and dispersed to the four winds in idle marches and counter-marches, or suffered to rust and decay in the neglect and sloth too easily superinduced by the habits of garrison life. It is due, then, from commanders of posts as well as from Heads of Departments, that every proper encouragement and stimulus should be rendered to the young officer for his improvement in all branches of human knowledge, whether military or civil, scientific or literary. The duties of the garrison, it is true, must be discharged, and the attention of the officer is required for their fulfilment. But when they are made to absorb the chief part of his time, and to interpose constant impediments to his course of studies, an undue importance is given to their value, and they become an injury instead of a benefit to the army and to its highest interests.

The subject opens upon us here with most inviting amplitude, but we refrain. The discussion of the relative claims of infantry and artillery has been sufficiently prolonged and little good can result from its further agitation. If the appeal be made to justice, a tribunal which W. seemed rather to affect, her response, if we may borrow counsel from the artillery sufferer, would dictate a summary equalization of rank. So far from viewing the artillery as a favored corps, she would pronounce it to be the most luckless. So far from seeking to deprive it of any incidental advantages it is now supposed to enjoy, she would invoke from the administrative hand of government every additional mark of its fostering regard that could be consistently bestowed, in recompense for the positive ills which attach to it from the nature and consequences of its organization.

Fortuitous inequalities of regimental promotion may be submitted to cheerfully, as the result of a fair venture in the game of chances. But a fixed system of partial promotion, bearing with its accumulating evils constantly and incessantly upon one devoted branch of the service, can only be tolerable when accompanied by the hope, that some remunerative principle may be recognised and administered by the Executive department of government, in favor of a corps, whose interests are so peculiarly prejudiced by the unerring operation of the law.

LIEUTENANT SLOWMATCH.

On the right of Staff Officers to retain their rank in the Line.

It has been said that principles are immutable, and so the world has hitherto supposed; but it would seem, of late, that the mere revolution of time produces a revolution of principle, at least on the subject which heads this article.

It is difficult to conceive, how the right on the part of Staff Officers, to retain their rank in the line, can be questioned at the present day. It was settled in the year 1820, in relation to the staff in general. It was settled again in 1827, on the occasion of Col. Jones' promotion to a majority in the line, and it was settled, for the third time, in 1829, in the case of Capt. Graham's appointment in the staff.

With a knowledge of these facts, the officers of the staff might well express their surprise, and even their alarm, that a principle which has thus been thrice settled in their favor, after full consideration, by three successive Administrations, should be again disturbed and its legality brought in question. And having all the authority, thus far, on their side, they might indeed, with reason, stand upon their rights and demand of those who have started the question anew, to make out their case and show the error of former adjudications, rather than be called upon to sustain the validity of their claim to a thrice confirmed right. But those in authority have felt themselves at liberty to entertain the question, and its discussion is, therefore, forced upon those, whose rights are again involved in the issue.

Whatever diversity of opinion may exist as to the *expediency* of officers holding places both in the line and the Staff of the Army at the same time, the *legality* of it, where the law provides that they shall be taken from the line, would seem to admit of no doubt. It is sanctioned, as will be shown, by the whole course of our legislation, and is settled, as far as any thing can be settled by the force of precedent, by the usage of the service for more than forty years.

The phraseology generally employed in reference to Staff Officers—namely,—“to be taken from the line,” or “to be appointed from the line,” was introduced into the second act that passed, relative to the Army, after the adoption of the federal constitution, and will be found in almost every law subsequently enacted touching organization. It is no *new* phrase therefore, with which we are to perplex ourselves. The inquiry is simply as to the meaning of one which is as old as the Government itself.

In this inquiry we shall, happily for the writer of these remarks, be spared the necessity of any very deep philological researches, as some of the laws containing that provision, furnish also the most unequivocal expression of what its meaning was. Such is the act of the 3d March 1799, entitled, “An act for the better organization of the troops of the United States and for other purposes,” the 6th section of which declares, “that Officers detached for Staff duties, shall retain their stations in their regiments, and

shall rank and rise therein, in the same manner as if they had not been detached." (Military Laws, page 106.)

It is true it also provides, that their places in their Regiments shall be supplied by promotion or new appointment; but it is to be remembered that, at the date of that act, we were in point of fact, in a state of War, and that there was not then, as there is at present, an excess of regimental Officers who could be conveniently spared from the service of the line.

Passing over a multitude of intermediate acts which provide that certain Staff Officers shall be taken from the line, and which have invariably been construed to mean, that they should be appointed from the line, and retain their regimental rank, we find the provisions of the act of 1799, above recited, for the most part re-enacted by that of the 3d March, 1813, passed in the midst of War, "for the better organization of the General Staff of the Army of the United States." The fourth section of that act, after providing that certain enumerated Staff Officers shall be taken from the line, declares, "that the transfer of officers taken from the line for the Staff, shall be without prejudice to their rank and promotion in the line, according to their said rank and seniority; which promotion shall take place according to usage, in the same manner as if they had not been thus transferred."—(Military Laws, page 190.)

These acts, and especially the last, may be regarded as affording a full, clear, and correct exposition of the meaning of the law, wherever it provides that Staff Officers shall be taken from the line; and as the question turns entirely upon the interpretation of that phrase, they would seem to be conclusive on the subject. Indeed, it is hardly possible to conceive how any well founded doubt can be entertained now, as to the legality of officers holding their rank in the line under such circumstances. So far from its being illegal for them to retain their lineal rank, it does seem quite obvious, that they *must* do so, under the terms of the law, to be capable of holding appointments in the Staff. So well was this principle established and recognized in former times, that there are cases of individuals being appointed in the line, expressly with a view to appointments in the Staff, and in order to become eligible to such appointments.

But it has been said by some, with a sort of pastoral simplicity, that the phrase, "to be taken from the line," means of course, that the Staff Officers to whom it is applied, shall be entirely separated from the line, by giving up their lineal rank. Such a suggestion does not seem to merit a moment's consideration. It is indeed unworthy of a serious reply. If a phrase which has acquired an established technical meaning, during a practice of forty years, is to be thus subverted by a mere literal interpretation directly at variance with co-temporary expositions, furnished by the laws themselves, then it may be affirmed without exaggeration, that there is an end to all right in the Army, for nothing can be called settled.

There is, it seems, an attempt made to distinguish between those officers who derive rank from their Staff appointments and those who do not. Nothing could be more unjust than this. Whatever the law may be, it is obviously the same in regard to all, and it is in vain, in a legal view of the subject, to attempt any distinction. The class of Officers to whom that provision of the law applies is numerous;—it comprehends two Quartermasters and twenty Assistants, two Commissaries and fifty Assistant Commissaries, the Aides-de-Camp of General Officers, and Adjutants of Regiments—making an aggregate of eighty-nine. In regard to all these, the law provides, without any qualification, that they shall be taken from the line. To assume a distinction in respect to one class, which the law does not make, is utterly inadmissible, for it would be an *interpolation* on the law. If it be illegal for one of those Staff Officers to retain his rank in the line, it is equally so with respect to all. The circumstance, that some few of them derive rank from their Staff appointments, can make no difference in the principle of construction to be applied, while the law makes no exception.

Now we would simply ask, whether Aids-de-Camp, Adjutants of Regiments, Assistant Quarter Masters or Assistant Commissaries of subsistence, to all of whom the law applies the above phraseology, can surrender their lineal rank and yet retain their staff appointments? No one will pretend that they can do so. On the contrary, the universal sentiment is, that they must belong to the line to be even eligible to those appointments. And is there a particle of difference in the legal aspect of their case and that of the officers who derive rank from their staff appointments? None whatever.

There is certainly, nothing novel in an officer holding both lineal and Staff rank at the same time, for such has been the practice for more than twenty years; and so far from its being repugnant to law, the preceding references have shewn that it has been expressly provided for by law, under circumstances much more opposed to it than the present. A brief review of those circumstances, as bearing upon the expediency of the case, may not be unprofitable.

When the act of 3d of March 1813 passed, authorizing the appointment of Staff Officers from the line of the Army, and securing to them their rank and promotion therein, a Company of Infantry consisted of 103 rank and file, and had five Commissioned Officers attached to it. At present a Company of Infantry consists of 51 rank and file, and has three Commissioned Officers assigned to it permanently, besides a brevet Lieutenant who may be, and generally is, temporarily attached. Then, a Company of Artillery consisted of 118 rank and file, and had five Commissioned Officers attached to it. Now, it consists of only 55 rank and file, and has the same number of commissioned officers besides a brevet Lieutenant as in the Infantry. Here is a much larger proportion of Officers compared with the number of troops, in time of profound

peace—when the greatest danger to be apprehended is, that Officers will not have enough to do—than there was during a time of actual War, when our Armies were not only to be recruited and trained, but were to meet a brave and experienced foe in battle.

Such was the state of things, when the law of 1813 authorized Staff Officers to be taken from the line, and expressly guaranteed their rank and promotion in their regiments; and surely if it was expedient then, it is not less so now. Indeed, the clamor which has been raised of late, about the injury which the service sustains by Staff Officers being taken from the line, is idle in the extreme, and it becomes even ludicrous when it is shown that this clamor is directed against those only who hold *rank* in the staff, now reduced to two in number, and when it is well known to those familiar with the service, that there is a host of regimental officers constantly detached from their companies, engaged on business having no relation whatever to their appropriate military duties.

Having shewn, as well by the usage of the service, for more than forty years, as by the express provisions of several acts, precisely covering the grounds of the case, that where the law enjoins that Staff Officers shall be taken from the line, it means nothing more nor less than that they shall be appointed from the line and retain their rank therein, and shall be entitled to promotion in the same manner as if they had not been appointed in the Staff, it would seem needless to pursue the subject further. But it may be shown by some further references, that the express reservation of the rights of Staff Officers, as made by the act of 3d of March 1813, already cited, has been sanctioned and continued by subsequent laws.

The 9th section of the act of 24th April 1816, "for organizing the General Staff and making further provision for the Army of the United States," (Military Laws—page 216,) declares, "that the several officers of the Staff, shall respectively receive the same pay and emoluments, and retain all the privileges, secured to the Staff of the Army by the act of 3d March 1813." Under this provision, the members of the Staff who had held rank in the line, but who had been deprived of it under a momentary misapprehension of their rights on the part of the Government, were, as late as the year 1820, restored to their former positions, though some of them had been out of the line for several years, and their places had been filled by promotion.

Here the principle of the Act of 1813 was expressly introduced—and with far more reason—into the peace establishment of 1815, and this principle is claimed to be still in force; for although it be not expressly re-enacted in all the subsequent laws, it is substantially recognized by the 11th section of the act of 2nd of March 1821, which declares, "that the Officers retained by this Act, except those specially provided for, shall have the same *rank*, pay and emoluments as are provided in like cases by existing laws."

But if the act of 1821 had been entirely silent on this point, it would not have altered the case. It was not necessary that the

provisions of the law of 1813, should be specially re-enacted on every occasion of creating a Staff Office, whose incumbent was to be taken from the line.

The acts of 1813 and 1816, which have been referred to, establish a general principle applicable to the Staff, which required no such repetition. It stands, like the general provisions in many other laws, unaffected by the changes which have occurred in the force and composition of the army. A score of such provisions, whose validity has never been questioned, might readily be referred to, if it were deemed necessary. We should have but little law indeed, if every thing required to be especially re-enacted, whenever any change was made in organization. All previous provision for widows and orphans, and for wounds and disabilities, as well as the authority to make regulations, would be utterly lost, since the act of 1821 is entirely silent on those subjects.

There is one provision of the act of 1816, which, as it has been relied upon to sustain the modern doctrine that Staff officers may be required to surrender their lineal rank, claims a brief notice. It is the last clause of the 10th section, in these words, "and hereafter the staff of the army may be taken from the line of the army or from citizens." To attempt to deduce from language like this, the legal inference that it is incompatible for officers of the staff to hold their rank in the line, may, without harshness, be justly termed a gross perversion of its meaning. The provision is merely permissive in its character, and cannot, with any sort of propriety be construed to abridge the rights of staff officers appointed from the line, when the next preceding section of the very same law, had just secured to them, in the most explicit terms, the retention of their lineal rank. Besides, in some of the existing cases, subsequent laws have expressly enjoined, that certain staff officers *shall* be taken from the line, which is thus far a direct qualification of the general authority conferred by the act of 1816, to fill such appointments from citizens.

But things have been confounded. The authority imparted by the act of 1816, to take the staff of the army from the line of the army or from citizens, by no means conveys the right to compel an officer of the line, after having received an appointment in the staff, to surrender his lineal rank. There is an undoubted right, in cases where subsequent laws have not restricted the authority given by the act of 1816, to appoint the staff of the army from citizens. This has been repeatedly exercised, especially as to appointments which conferred no rank. But whilst this right, in the original selection, is conceded, it is denied, that when a staff officer has been appointed from the line, there is any authority competent to destroy the rights secured to him by law, by compelling him to surrender his lineal rank. How far it would comport with dignity and the obligations of justice, to barter with an applicant before the staff appointment is bestowed, and exact from him a sort of purchase of it by a stipulation to surrender his lineal rank, need not be inquired here. There are, in one of the official documents

annexed to these remarks, some very just observations on that subject, emanating from a former Secretary of War, which will supersede the necessity of such inquiry.

The question raised being one of legality merely, it was not deemed necessary to enter much into its expediency. It may however be remarked, that the consideration that the Staff could be furnished from the line, without injury to the service, is known to have formed a leading inducement to the very liberal organization which was given to the line in the reduction of 1821. And it is manifest, that the great body of the army is most deeply interested in preserving that feature in the organization; for if the Staff be separated from the line, no one can suppose that the present organization, which gives an average of one commissioned officer to every twelve men, will be tolerated by Congress. Such a separation, if carried out on principle, would increase the expense of the Military Establishment eighty thousand dollars annually; and the first estimate which should be presented on that basis would be the signal for a reduction in the line.

If, however, the scheme be intended only to affect such of the Officers as derive rank from their Staff appointments, then they enter their solemn protest against any such unauthorised discrimination. Where the law has made no distinction, no other authority is competent to make any.

The writer of these remarks is measurably indifferent about the retention of his rank in the line—inferior as it is in grade to that which he holds in the staff—and if it were a matter on which he could exercise his discretion, he might not hesitate to relinquish the former. But he conscientiously believes, that he cannot legally surrender his rank in the line and retain his staff appointment; that under the terms of the law creating his staff office, rank in the line is as necessary to render him eligible to his staff appointment, as it is in the case of Aids-de-camp, Regimental Adjutants, and Assistant Quarter Masters. Nor would the circumstance that he might surrender his lineal rank, under the auspices and protection of those now in authority, afford him any guaranty of his future rights as a staff officer. What assurance could he have, that such a decision would be respected hereafter?

It has been said, in the outset of these remarks, and the appended documents will establish the fact, that this very question has already been thrice adjudicated by the Government and settled, as it was supposed, in favor of staff officers. Notwithstanding this, we see that it is still held open for discussion, that its agitation goes unrebuked, and that the entire reversal of all former decisions on the subject, is regarded as within the competency of those who assume cognizance of the case. Under a policy so oscillating, can there be any guaranty of personal rights founded upon settled principle? Assuredly not, for there are no principles which can be called settled. The political cycle will soon have been completed once more—others will come into authority, and if the deliberate adjudications of former times, involving important principles,

can be reviewed and reversed at pleasure, may not those of the present day share the same fate? A tithe of the legal acumen which has discovered, that all former decisions on this subject were wrong, will enable new functionaries to make the like discovery as to the decisions of their predecessors, and the very individuals who may now be compelled to relinquish their lineal rank, as being incompatible with their staff appointments, may then be gravely told, from the same source of power, that, as they do not hold rank in the line, as the organic law prescribes, they are not eligible to their staff appointments, and must relinquish them likewise.

We here close these remarks by inviting the reader's attention to the following official documents, which will show what was the former action of the Government on this subject, as well as the understanding of Congress, when, on a recent occasion, they employed that perplexing phrase, "to be taken from the line."

Adjutant and Inspector General's Office,

MARCH 3, 1820.

GENERAL ORDERS.

A Board of Officers, of which Major General Brown is President, and Brevet Major General Scott, and Lieut. Col. Arbuckle are members, will meet at Philadelphia, at such time as the President may designate, and for which he will give orders to the members.

To this Board the Secretary of War refers the subject of restoring again to the Regiments and Corps from which their names have been taken, the several Officers of the Staff appointed under the act of April 24th, 1816—and referred to in the communication of Major Kirby, Assistant Adjutant General, and the report of the Adjutant and Inspector General, herewith enclosed to the President of the Board.

The Board will call for such further evidence as it may require, and report its opinion as early as convenient.

By Order,

D. PARKER,
Adjt. and Insp'r. Gen'l.

The Board of Officers, consisting of *Major General Brown, Brevet Major General Scott, and Lieut. Colonel Arbuckle*, instituted by the General Order of the 3d inst., to decide on the claims of certain Officers of the General Staff of the Army of the United States, after an examination of the subject in its several relations, has the honor to make the following report:

By the law of March 3d, 1813, for the organization of the Staff, it appears that the Officers, who were transferred from the line of the Army to the performance of Staff duties, were SECURED in their right of *promotion and in their lineal rank*; their promotion was to *take place in the same manner as if they had not been thus transferred.*"

The law of 24th April, 1816, for the organization of the Staff of the Peace Establishment, *confirms* to officers, transferred from lineal

to Staff duties "*all the privileges secured to the Staff of the Army by the Act of March 3d, 1813.*"

As the Officers, who claim their lineal rank on the authority of the preceding Laws, do not appear to have made a voluntary relinquishment of it; on the contrary, as they have constantly asserted their claim to it, and as no evidence is adduced to show that they have been formally *dismissed*, the BOARD is of opinion that those officers who were at, and who have been since, the organization of the Peace Establishment, transferred from the line of the Army to the Staff, are entitled and ought, to be restored to the lineal rank which they would now hold in their respective Corps, had they not been thus transferred.

JAC. BROWN.

PHILADELPHIA, MARCH 30TH, 1820.

Adjutant and Inspector General's Office,

MAY 20, 1820.

GENERAL ORDERS.

The above report of the Board of Officers of which Major General Brown was President, is approved, and conformably thereto, John E. Wool, Inspector General of the North Division, is restored to the lineal rank of Lieut. Colonel, to rank as such from the 10th of February, 1818, above Lieut. Col. Leavenworth.—Charles J. Nourse, Assistant Adjutant General, is restored to the lineal rank of Captain in the 2d Infantry, to rank from 17th June, 1816, above Capt. Bailey.—R. M. Kirby, Assistant Adjutant General, is restored to the lineal rank of 1st Lieutenant in the corps of Artillery, to rank from 23d March, 1818, above Lieutenant Dix.—Francis S. Belton, Assistant Inspector General, is restored to the lineal rank of Captain in the 4th Infantry, to rank from 31st July, 1817, above Captain Gale.—William McDonald, Assistant Inspector General, is restored to the lineal rank of Captain in the 3d Infantry, to rank from 11th November, 1814, above Captain Garland—and John Biddle, Assistant Inspector General, is restored to the rank of Captain, Corps of Artillery, to rank from 1st October, 1813, above Captain Payne.

When a new Register is published, these Officers will be arranged to their proper places in the line, and will fill vacancies accordingly.

By Order,

D. PARKER,

Adjutant and Inspector General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, November 14th, 1829.

SIR :—Your letter of the 12th inst., is received. You ask that a Court of Enquiry may be given you, to ascertain and report, whether in reference to retaining your Staff and lineal appointments there is any thing which justly exposes you to reprehension. I cannot perceive the necessity of directing an enquiry as to facts which are already ascertained, or to solicit an opinion upon them, as that expression, when made, would in nothing change my own. Soon after I came into the War Department, a written communication was made to me by you on the subject. I understood you to say then, that your nomination originally to the Senate, had been with an understanding by the Secretary of War, accorded to

by yourself, that you would resign the situation you held in the line of the Army. But upon the nomination thus presented, the Senate did not act: and after the 4th of March every nomination unacted upon by the Senate, was withdrawn. They were subsequently returned, (many of them) yours amongst the number. No promise of the kind spoken of was ever made to me, or asked from you.

The only question for my decision arising in your case was, *whether it was incompatible by the law, for you to hold both a lineal and staff appointment.* I could not discover that it was; so far from it, the converse idea prevailed, that topographical selections were privileged from the line of the Army. It was not therefore for me, in the discharge of official duty, to require an officer to do *that which the law did not require* of him. My course was to expound, not to make laws, and to exact from no one, terms and conditions which Congress had not by its legislation imposed.

The only branch of this matter out of which any thing of feeling to you, or doubt with others, can arise, is the promise alleged to have been made to the Secretary of War, as the condition of your nomination. An answer to which is, that the law imposed no conditions, and that hence the Secretary of War had not a right to make any. If to this it shall be replied that though no legal, still a moral obligation abides with you on the promise given, the answer to it will be, that this whole matter of contract failed when the first nomination, previous to March, was omitted to be acted upon, and when your second nomination took place by the present Chief Magistrate, apart from any such exacted conditions. For myself, I object altogether to any thing of stipulation as the consideration of office. If one condition shall be exacted, another and another may again, in some after time, be required, until the tenure of office may be made to depend, not upon the requirements of the law and the competency of the party, but upon whatever conditions the bestower of it may think proper to impose; a course of practice which would be at war with our institutions, and with the principles of our Government.

Very respectfully, your most obed't.

J. H. EATON.

CAPT. JAMES D. GRAHAM,
Ass't. Top: Engineer.

OFFICE OF COM. GEN. OF SUBSISTENCE,
November 9th, 1827.

SIR:—Presuming the utility of the present mode of subsisting the Army to be sufficiently tested by eight years of successful experiment, I beg leave to suggest the expediency of asking Congress to make the Department permanent. I am also induced to request your recommendation for a law, authorising the appointment of two Majors to the Commissariat Department, whose services are

required to enable me more efficiently to conduct its operations—one to be stationed in Washington as my assistant in the performance of my duties as chief of the Department—the other to be employed in superintending the fulfilment of the important Western and North Western contracts, in the occasional inspection of subsistence store-houses, and to make purchases at the west on the failure of contractors.

Since the organization of this department, I have been indebted to a detail from the Army for an assistant in my office, and have been frequently obliged to apply for a special agent to proceed to the west, there to superintend the fulfilment of doubtful contracts, to make purchases on failures, and shipments to distant and important posts. By having two efficient assistants under my exclusive control, belonging to the department and interested in its success, I feel confident that it would be materially benefited.

The only additional expense attendant on the appointment of two Majors to the Subsistence Department, would be the difference between the pay of that grade of the Army, from which they may be selected, and their pay as Majors of the Staff, which on the supposition that they would be taken from the rank of Captain, would be very inconsiderable.

This is the only application I have made since the first organization of the Department, and being thoroughly impressed with the advantages attendant on the measures here proposed, I feel anxious for its accomplishment.

GEO. GIBSON, C. G. S.

To the HON. JAMES BARBOUR,
Secretary of War, Washington.

OFFICE OF COM. GEN'L OF SUBSISTENCE,
Washington, 22nd June, 1832.

SIR:—In reference to the conversation I had the honor to hold with you this morning relative to the history of this Department,—I have to state, that an act was passed on the 14th April, 1818, creating it for five years; on the 23d January, 1823, it was renewed for five years; and on the 2d March, 1829, was again renewed for five years: and unless renewed, or made permanent will expire 2d March, 1834. On the 2d March, 1829, an act was passed creating two Commissaries for this Department, the one with the rank of Quarter Master and the other Assistant Quarter Master, to be taken from the line of the Army. I would here remark that, on making application to Congress, I used the argument that very little additional expense would accrue by the creation of those offices, as the difference between the pay of the line, of the officers selected, and the Staff pay was very little, and I sincerely believe Congress would not have consented to the creation of those appointments but for this consideration.

Another proof that it was the intention of the framers of the law, that an officer of the line should hold the appointment of Commis-

sary of Subsistence, may be deduced from the fact, that the bill as originally reported read "*to be taken from the Captains of the line;*" but knowing Major Hook was near promotion, and intending the office of Commissary for him, the Chairman of the Military Committee at my request, altered the bill, which, as passed read, "*to be taken from the line of the Army.*" In further proof that the Staff appointments of the Subsistence Department, are confined to officers holding commissions in the line of the Army, the 50 Assistant Commissaries of Subsistence authorised by the act of 1818, are all Subalterns of the Army, and now hold their Staff and line appointments.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your most obedient servant,

GEO. GIBSON, C. G. S.

To the President of the U. S., Washington.

MILITARY ACADEMY, WEST POINT.

The Western Monthly Magazine, for February, contains a review of the last annual report of the Secretary of War, and pays a merited tribute to the value of the Military Academy—an institution which confers honor upon the country, and repays with interest, in the highly improved materiel of the Army, the small appropriation required for its support. We cannot forego the pleasure of transferring to our pages that portion of the review which speaks of the Academy.

"The Academy at West Point has been assailed in the newspapers, and the policy of sustaining that institution has even been made a subject of debate in some of the State Legislatures. From the evidence before us, we have no hesitation in declaring, that any reflecting man who will impartially inform himself on the subject, must be satisfied, not only of the utility of that institution, but that the amount expended in its support is actually yielding advantages to the country, sufficient to recommend it as a measure of economy. The advantage of furnishing to the army as officers, a band of well-educated and disciplined young men, is in itself of incalculable importance. The improvement which has taken place in the character and deportment of the officers of the army, chiefly in consequence of the regulation confining the appointments to cadets, seems almost incredible to those who know what it was, and see what it is. The time has passed by, when the officer was proverbially an idle man, who resorted to pleasure and to intemperance, from mere want of employment. They are now, as a class, gentlemen of temperate and unexceptionable habits; and the scenes of profligacy and dissipation once so common in the vicinity of our garrisons, and even within the barracks, are now unknown. * * * *

The country is deriving important advantages from the services of these gentlemen. In the course of instruction pursued at West Point, the study of mathematics receives the greatest share of attention, and the cadets become thoroughly versed in this valuable branch of knowledge. Those who have not sufficient capacity to attain a respectable proficiency in these studies, or who neglect the opportunity, are dismissed as not being proper subjects for the patronage of the government. The gentlemen commissioned, are young men who have improved their time, and who possess acquisitions of a useful character. The government has consequently always at its command, both in and out of the corps of engineers, a large number of officers, well skilled in civil and military engineering, and it has been the policy for some years past, to employ all who could be spared from duties strictly military, in superintending works of internal improvement, or in making surveys and estimates in anticipation of such works. Through the labors of these officers, and those of the topographical department, the government has accumulated a vast mass of facts, the result of actual surveys of our harbors, rivers, boundaries, and various portions of the country, which afford to congress, and to the nation, at all times the most authentic means of information. The largest and most valuable contributions which have been made to the topographical knowledge that we possess, in reference to our own widely-extended territory, have emanated from this source. During the past year, as in former years, these officers have been employed in erecting and repairing fortifications, in surveying and improving harbors on the sea coast and the lakes, in making roads and in improving navigable streams. Nearly all the works enumerated in the list which we have extracted from the *report*, are under their superintendence. The government has shown great wisdom in thus employing the army usefully in time of peace: and we doubt whether any equal number of persons under its pay, render services of equal value, or perform them with more fidelity. Nor can we imagine any plan by which the army can be steadily supplied with well educated, efficient officers, competent to perform the various and highly important duties imposed on them, and fit to be trusted with the disbursement of the large sums which now pass annually through their hands, except that of *educating them for the purpose*—training them up from childhood, becoming thoroughly acquainted with their characters before they are trusted, giving them the amount of knowledge, and the kind of knowledge, necessary for their stations, and engaging them permanently in the service of their country. So far as our opinion may go, we should deeply deplore any change of policy which might destroy, or cripple, an institution whose influence upon the army has been so salutary, and whose advantages have been so signally blended with the best interests of the country."

The writer of the following sketch of "Naval Life," informs the editor, that it was prepared for and published in some newspaper; and that he intended to continue the subject, but circumstances prevented his carrying that intention into effect. He proposes, if this is acceptable, to furnish other sketches, and we can assure him, judging from the present specimen, that our readers will thank him for his trouble. We had read this sketch, probably in the newspaper for which it was prepared, and it is one of those alluded to in some remarks contained in the December No. extra of the Magazine: "Several well-written articles have recently appeared in the newspapers, but so far from envying our professional brethren their good fortune in being thus favored, we rejoice that the officers have been induced to exercise their talents, and shall endeavor, by all persuasive means, to prevail on them to make the Magazine an occasional channel for their literary labors." The time will come, we hope, when the officers of both arms of our service will resort to the Magazine as the authorized medium of communication on all subjects pertaining to their profession, as it is our intention to make it the repository of every thing that will be entertaining, useful or instructive.

This seems to be a fit occasion to say something respecting the promise made to continue the extracts from PETER SIMPLE. When we commenced the republication of that book in detached portions, it was with the hope of eliciting something of the kind from our own officers. PETER'S Life and Adventures have been completed, and it is not necessary to repeat our opinion of them. Having now the prospect of original articles of a similar description, we think it will be as well to omit further extracts, which our readers will not so much regret, when we state that it will require four years to republish the whole, at the rate of ten pages a month—a time entirely too long to tax a reader's patience with one subject, and keep his curiosity in suspense.

NAVAL LIFE, No. 1.

My appointment as Midshipman made me the happiest boy in the world; for all my youthful longings were at once gratified by it. My father had never intended me for the navy, but being one of those who believe that the "inclinations" (as the foolish whims of a lad of thirteen are termed) in so important a matter as the choice of a profession, should not be thwarted, consented, after I had pestered him upon the subject for two years, to consign me to a life which of all others is most replete with difficulties and disappointments.

After the first burst of delight had a little subsided, the grand consideration was to consummate my good fortune by obtaining orders for service as soon as possible. A fine frigate was luckily equipping for a desirable cruise, under the command of a *deservedly* popular officer, with whom my father had some acquaintance, and through whose instrumentality orders to her were granted me. It was early in the spring of 18— that I left my paternal roof to enter upon this new career. Many tears were shed and much good advice given on this occasion; but my mother, who had been deeply affected from the moment my father had yielded to my wishes, now manifested

such bitter, heart-felt sorrow, that I, who had ever loved her as tenderly as it is possible for a child to love that dearest of parents, felt more than half inclined to resign my warrant and return to school.

My brilliant anticipations did not permit my grief to weigh very heavily, or endure very long after I had taken my seat in the stage coach. I arrived safely at P. and lost no time in going to the Dock Yard, where the frigate was equipping, to report for duty. Oh, how soon were my airy visions of the delightful life of a Midshipman on shipboard destined to fade away!

It was a raw, cold day, and I remember full well, that I stood at the dock yard gate half an hour before I dared to attempt passing the sentinel on post. I at length addressed myself to a mild, gentlemanly looking man, who, as I afterwards found, was one of the civil officers of the establishment. He directed me to throw open my overcoat, that my uniform might be seen by the sentinels, conducted me to the head of the wharf at which the ship was lying, and having pointed her out, left me. I jostled my way down to her, through gangs of dirty sailors at work under the directions of cold, shivering Midshipmen. A long line of them was passing billets of fire wood to one of the gun deck ports of the ship, where they were received and thrown into the hold. Another set was scraping and whitewashing large water casks; another treating pigs of iron ballast in the same way; and others were passing cannon balls on board.

At the gangway of the ship I was again at fault; for I dared not attempt passing up, lumbered and crowded as it was. I therefore remained contemplating the scene, astonished and embarrassed, until I was addressed by an officer, whose attention I was so fortunate as to attract. Upon explaining my situation to him, I was at once conducted on board to the first Lieutenant, (the Captain had not joined) who was upon the gun deck, attending to his multifarious duties. After glancing at my order from the Navy Office which I presented, and expressing a hope that I was ready for duty, he called one of the "young gentlemen" who was near, and directed that I should be shown into the steerage.

We descended by two ladders into a dungeon-like apartment, the extent of which I could not for some time determine. Here I lost sight of my conductor and stood for a few moments in silent astonishment at the darkness and din, gazing at the faint, dull glimmering of a "purser's dip," which was burning at a distance from me, and in the direction of which I thought I could hear his voice calling my name. Presently my vision became accommodated to the small quantity of light; objects were more distinct, and I made my way with great difficulty towards the candle, which, stuck in its own grease, was burning upon a table, around which some half dozen Midshipmen, generally lads about my own age, were assembled, wrapped in cloaks and pea jackets, listening to a "long yarn," which Mr. Bower, the boatswain, was concluding as I appeared.

My introduction and reception over, I seated myself upon a chest among them; and with a sinking heart took a view of the scene before me, and never shall I forget the horror with which I was filled.

I had, of course, never formed any definite idea of what I was to expect; but my fertile imagination had ever pictured a man-of-war as an affair in which nothing but elegance and comfort reigned, and the situation of Midshipman on board, one of very great distinction and importance. Now a most dismal reality took the place of these delightful imaginings. The steerage, of which I was now a denizen, and which was pronounced by one of my brother Mids: "who had sailed," "a d——d elegant one,"—was too low down in the ship to be lighted from above, except very feebly; and the deficiency was to be supplied by a very scanty allowance of miserable tallow candles. It was but little over five feet high, and extended across the ship near the mainmast. Around it were arranged chests for clothes; and, at the sides, were permanent lockers for mess utensils. Through a latticed partition or "bulk head" on one hand, I discovered a group of marines furbishing their accoutrements: this I was told was the berth deck, inhabited by the men. On the other hand, separated by a similar partition, was a spacious and more comfortable looking apartment, which was the ward room, being the accommodations of the Lieutenants and other superior officers of the ship. In the centre of the steerage were two large scuttles or hatches, one of which was open and led to the cockpit, an apartment smaller, darker, and even more dismal than the steerage. The other was the spirit room. It was covered and secured by a large bar of iron and a padlock. The steerage was thus, as it were, equally divided by the two hatches in the middle, as well as the ladders leading to the deck above. Upon either side were the poor pine mess tables surrounded by their proper proprietors.

Clamour and confusion seemed to reign. Trunks, chests, bags, cloaks, boots, shoes, and wash basons were piled on all sides. Every one was vociferating orders to the dirty, slouching mess-boys, who threaded their way through those complicated obstacles with incredible dexterity, crying "aye, aye, sir!" to every command. I was too much absorbed in my contemplations to attend to the conversation of my new messmates, until I was aroused by Mr. Bower, who clapping me upon the shoulder with his iron hand, and after remarking that "though it might be a little hardish, or so, at first, all would come right by and bye;" told me to shorten my face, cheer up, and take a glass of grog; "a stout heart for a youngster was indispensable, and in a few days I would be up to a thing or two." After the nausea occasioned by a draught of ship's rum and water, drank out of a cracked teacup, (the first ardent spirit, of course, I had ever tasted,) had subsided a little, I, in fact, felt somewhat relieved from my gloomy reflections. Dinner, consisting of soup in a tin tureen, with the grog cup for a ladle, and a piece of tough baked beef and potatoes in an iron pan, was now put upon the table; and, to save appearances, I ate a little.

In the afternoon, my baggage came on board; I had a chest allotted and a hammock issued me, which my friend Mr. Bower was kind enough to have neatly slung.

I will not tire the reader with any further account of my initiation.

I fortunately escaped any particularly severe "running" (as bantering nearly to death every "green reefer," alias young midshipman, is called;) and in a few days, as Mr. Bower had prophesied, was pretty well "up to a thing or two:" could superintend the labors of the "scrapers, whitewashers," or "wood-barkers," as well as the best of them. Severely and bitterly, however, was I disappointed, in my situation and prospects. I contrasted the comforts of the happy home I had left, with my present cheerless, toilsome life, and a thousand times was I tempted to write to my father, open myself to him candidly, and beg that I might be taken home, my education completed, and any other profession than the naval, selected for me. Shame only deterred me; I dreaded the derision, which I knew I should have to encounter from my contemporaries, whom I left envying my happy fortune, and toiled on. As the spring advanced, the equipment of the ship rapidly approached completion, and matters becoming more orderly, were of course more agreeable. The Captain joined. He was an excellent, gentlemanly officer, and I shall always hold in grateful remembrance, his kindness to me in that early stage of my profession.

About this time, there became one of us, a midshipman just appointed, eighteen or nineteen years of age. He was not without maritime experience, having made a few voyages in merchant vessels, and letters which he brought to the Captain secured him a most favorable reception in that important quarter; but with us he was unfortunately received far differently. Rawdon, poor fellow, was unprepossessing in his manners, appearance and conversation; and unluckily for him, a Mr. Shackleford, one of the older midshipmen (who had been appointed by the first Lieutenant, master's mate, or superintending officer of the hold and spirit-room,) had committed some egregious blunder in the stowage of some part of the ship stores, was removed from his situation and Rawdon put in his place. From that moment, there was a determination among the "oldsters" (who, as was customary in those days, messed together; leaving the "younkers" to shift for themselves,) to "run him out of the ship;" and measures to accomplish this magnanimous purpose were forthwith commenced; the removed midshipman, who was one of the most popular in the ship, leading the way. Rawdon had messed with us "younkers," and the first step was to induce us to expel him our mess. This was not difficult to do, and Rawdon, in silent but deep mortification, ate by himself upon the lid of his chest? His "hammock lanyard," was cut, or "slippery hitches" taken in it every night, and as the falls which he thereby received were, in one or two instances severe, he spread his mattress upon the deck, and slept there. Then, *by accident*, dirty water, wet swabs, or boots and shoes were perpetually thrown upon him.

He was voted "no gentleman," sent to coventry, or, in other words, no one spoke to him; and contemptuous, deriding remarks were continually made upon him in his hearing. It was evident that he possessed great sensibility, and that all this unmerited persecution went to his heart; still he sustained himself under it, attending

strictly to his duties, which he performed so well as to call forth expressions of strong approbation from the Captain, first Lieutenant and Master.

There was soon an evident change in the deportment of the oldsters towards him. He was treated by them generally with cool, distant respect: but one, a Mr. Thorp, seemed to be even friendly to him, and we "younkers" often saw them in close conference.

The cause of this great change was not long in leaking out. It was understood that Mr. Rawdon had, by jostling or treading upon the toes of Mr. Shackleford, insulted him so grossly, that a challenge had passed and a fight was to take place. Matters of this belligerent nature were new to Rawdon, and his embarrassment upon the occasion was of course very great, until he was relieved by Mr. Townsend who kindly came forward and offered to take the affair in hand for him, in the character of a *friend*. A contest, however, was far from Rawdon's thoughts, inasmuch as he could see no occasion for one, having declared over and over again that the occurrence at which Mr. Shackleford had taken such mortal offence, was purely accidental. This would not do, however. Mr. Rawdon and Mr. Shackleford could by *no means continue in the same ship* without a fight.

I accidentally overheard part of a conversation between Rawdon and his *friend* one day, forward upon the gun deck, after the preliminaries had been settled and a time for the meeting appointed. He had experienced such incessant ill treatment from every one, and had felt it so deeply, that the unlooked-for kindness of his new friend was balm to his wounded feelings, and he was upon this occasion expressing his gratitude to him for it; he spoke of his poor widowed mother, whose only son and main support he was, and whose path in the declining years of her life he hoped to smooth; of his young sisters, too, who would be deprived of their dear and only protector; and of the anguish with which they would receive the intelligence, should the approaching encounter result fatally to him. Of this he felt almost certain; for his *friend* had been constantly extolling the consummate skill with the pistol, of Mr. Shackleford, while poor Rawdon avowed himself a perfect novice in its use.

He then gave some directions respecting the disposition to be made of his few effects in case of such an event. His watch and clothes were to be sent to his mother; his dirk and cocked hat he gave to his *friend*.

The day arrived. I was one of the Midshipmen of the watch, as the party came up and requested of the officer of the deck a boat to visit an island in a remote part of the harbor, upon a gunning excursion. The boat was manned, and I was ordered as the officer of her. We put off from the ship and soon landed near the appointed spot. The principals stood aside, while the seconds proceeded, without loss of time, to measure the ground and load the pistols. The combatants took their places, and after having been directed to "take care to fire between the words *one* and *three*," were asked if they were ready.

Rawdon, whose demeanor had been firm and composed, notwithstanding a deadly paleness of countenance, spoke as follows: "Gentlemen, I have been dragged to this encounter unnecessarily, and therefore, against my will. I call heaven to witness, that I had no intention to insult Mr. Shackelford; and I again ask, that this declaration may be received in a proper spirit, and matters carried no further." A glance of malignant satisfaction, at this seeming want of firmness, was exchanged among the other members of the party, and the alternative "to fight or leave the ship" was offered him.

Rawdon made no reply, but raised his pistol, felt, with the ramrod, the charge it contained, and, observing to his friend *that the ball must have been forgotten*, drew one from his waistcoat pocket, calmly rammed it down and announced his readiness for the word.

Oh, that the scene which ensued could have been sketched by a Hogarth! Several minutes elapsed before another word was uttered. The silence was broken by the brutal Shackelford, who, bursting into a loud laugh, which sounded like any thing but a joyous one, announced the whole matter a "mere innocent joke." Rawdon opened his lips to speak, and again there was a death-like silence. "You chose an improper subject for your joke, gentlemen, and have carried it much too far. The joke must now be made earnest, or I pronounce all concerned in it cowards and scoundrels."

What was to be done? A *real fight* constituted no part of the purpose of the *joking party*; and after a short consultation, it was determined to defer farther proceedings, for the present at any rate, and return to the ship.

The moment we reached her, the whole were summoned to the cabin by the Captain, who, but a few moments before, had been informed that a duel was on foot. I had been present as a neutral, and was therefore included in the summons. He first addressed himself to Rawdon, demanding information, and received from him a full, calm, and candid statement of the whole course of conduct, which had been pursued towards him, ending with an account of the *meeting*, which had just taken place. The Captain turned to the gentlemen and asked if they had aught to say in defence; observing, at the same time, that he, as well as the Lieutenants of the ship, had long been indignant spectators of the persecution which Mr. Rawdon had suffered at their hands. What could they say? *Nothing*. And never shall I forget the mingled expression of contempt and indignation in his countenance, as he expatiated at length upon their worse than infamous conduct; concluding with an offer to Shackelford and his worthy second, Thorp, the alternative of resigning or abiding the decision of a Court Martial. They wisely sent in their warrants and left the ship in less than an hour. A short time after this, a few more of our oldsters were detached and put upon half pay: and, I believe, for subsequent misconduct, most of them were eventually "invited to resign." Times have altered too, since then; for now-a-days, none but men of honor are tolerated in the navy. Rawdon became one of the most popular reefers I ever

knew, and although he entered the service rather late in the day, will, if he lives and has opportunity, become a distinguished officer.

Perhaps I may hereafter tell who gave him an important piece of information the evening before the *duel* was to have taken place. We soon afterwards sailed for the West Indies.

TO THE MOHAWK.

The echoes of far years have sped
Across thy bright and gladsome stream,
The cheerful voice, triumphant song
Rang through the deepest forest glade
And all thy peaceful shores along,
When o'er the hills the morning beam
First broke the red man's happy dream.

But where is he, thy sylvan son,
The innocent, the brave, the free,
The Kings and Princes of the soil?
Canst trace them as thy waters run,
'Midst the dark throng where white men toil?
Ah, no! forever lost to thee,
Like rivers when they meet the sea.

His step was backward from thy shore,
To forest cave and mountain glen;
He left his Altars, and the grave
Where slept his kindred; seen no more—
And wander'd with the lonely, brave,
In desert wilds from stranger men,
Sighing for freedom once again.

The Greek and Roman perish'd, fell,
But where they perish'd, there had dwelt
The Temples where they worship'd threw
Their shadows o'er them, and the spell
Of their own glories linger'd, grew
For other years; and Nations felt
Its power, and in their homage knelt!

But thine upon a desert shore
Have rested, and their race is run;
Behind them sterile hills, beyond—the sea
Their glories faded, and their dangers o'er,
The waste an emblem of their destiny,
Around them tho' the goal be won,
Some hope like light,—but of a setting sun.

But still thou sparklest ever hast
With Time which notes thy course along
And will when ages and their worth
And monuments of men are past,
Giving thy smiles to Heaven, thy wealth to Earth,
Still to the breeze thy music's flung
Thy life eternal youth, thy joy eternal song.

....

LÜTZOW'S WILD CHASE.

This name was given to a Prussian Corps of Volunteers during the war of 1813 and 1814. It was commanded by Major Lützow, and composed of young gentlemen of the highest talents and patriotism. Being chiefly employed in reconnoitring and scouring the country, they were called Major Lützow's Wild Chase. The Poet Körner was a member of this corps, and has celebrated it in a song, which is to the Germans what the Marseilles Hymn is to the French. Of this song the following original paraphrase is almost a literal translation.

What gleams from yon wood in the splendor of day?
Hark! hear its wild din rushing nearer!
It hither approaches in gloomy array
While loud sounding horns peal their blast on its way,
The soul overwhelming with terror!
Those swart companions you view in the race,—
Those are Lützow's roving, wild, venturous chase.

What swiftly moves on through yon dark forest glade,
From mountain to mountain deploying?
They place themselves nightly in ambuscade,
They shout the Hurrah and they draw the keen blade,
Franconian usurpers destroying.
Those swart Yagers bounding from place to place,
Those are Lützow's roving, wild, venturous chase.

Where, midst glowing vines as the Rhine murmurs by,
The tyrant securely is sleeping,—
They swiftly approach 'neath the storm-glaring-sky
With vigorous arms o'er the waters they ply,
Soon safe on his island shore leaping:
Those swarthy swimmers whose wake you trace,
Those are Lützow's roving, wild, venturous chase.

Why sweeps from yon valley the battle's loud roar,
Where swords in thick carnage are clashing?
Fierce horsemen encounter, 'mid lightnings and gore;
The spark of true freedom is kindled once more,
From War's bloody altars out-flashing!
Those horsemen swart who the combat face,—
Those are Lützow's roving, wild, venturous chase.

Who smile their adieu to the light of the Sun,
'Mid fallen foes moaning their bravery?
Death creeps o'er their visage,—their labors are done,
Their valiant hearts tremble not—victory's won,
Their fatherland rescued from slavery!
Those swart warriors fallen in death's embrace,
Those were Lützow's roving, wild, venturous chase.

The wild German Yagers!—their glorious careers
Dealt death to the tyrant oppressor!
Then weep not dear friends for the true volunteers,
When the morn of our fatherland's freedom appears,
Since we alone died to redress her.
Our mem'ry transmitted no time shall erase;
"Those were Lützow's roving, wild venturous chase."

WEST POINT.

At a large "State Convention," quite recently assembled in Ohio, it was resolved, that "the Academy at West Point" had been "wholly perverted from the objects of its founders, and that the best interests of the nation require that it should be abolished.

When so grave a charge is made, by such a respectable body of men, against an institution so high in its character as that of the Military Academy, it becomes important to inquire into its truth or plausibility. We will not make quotations from the statute book, in order to show what were the "objects" of its "Founders." It will doubtless be conceded by all liberal persons of common sense, that the main object was to form officers for the Army. The laws neither express nor imply any other. It would be mere quibbling now to say that particular corps only were intended to receive a benefit, in this way, from the Institution, and that it has been by a strained interpretation, that Cadets have been educated generally for all the corps of which the Army is constituted. Congress has sustained it through a series of years, knowing that it furnished officers to the Army in all its branches. The Ohio Resolution could not therefore, we should think, imply a perversion of the original objects of the Institution in this respect.

It has been frequently alleged against it, that admissions into the Academy were regulated by partial and invidious rules. This allegation has often been made on the floor of Congress, and subjected to the severest enquiry. The result has invariably left the Institution as popular and stable as ever. In the early years of the Academy, it attracted little attention; there was no competition for admission; the complement of Cadets was seldom full, or, if it were, it was made up without much regard to prerequisites, age, or locality. It was not until some time after the last war, that it acquired such a character for its mode of instruction, as to make admission into it an object of any anxiety. It was still later, that the rule was established, that all vacancies in the army should be filled from the graduates. The distinguished proficiency of many of these graduates soon excited general interest in the Institution. All became desirous of placing a son within the reach of such eminent advantages. Such a common desire of course led to a crowd of applications, far exceeding the number that could be successful. Convenience, as well as justice, demanded the adoption of some rule, by which the most impartial selection should be made, and the chances of success equalized throughout the states. The ratio of representation was adopted, as affording the most satisfactory standard. The number was thus apportioned to each state. When the number of applicants—as is generally the case—exceeds the quota thus ascertained, the invidious task of selection has been performed with such discretion as the case called for, being generally guided by information from the members of Congress representing the district of the applicants. Such a course

could not exclude the influence of all favor and affection, but approximates as near to it as seems to be practicable.

It has often been alleged, that none but the wealthy and influential have the pass-word to this Institution. A charge of this kind has led to frequent scrutiny of facts by Congress, and volumes have been published, as the result of this scrutiny, all showing how little foundation it had. In the outset, when the Academy first became an object of competition, it is not improbable that the most prominent were the most successful in the scramble for appointments; they would naturally be the first to move, and might have been served first, only because they were the first to come. But the rule of admission soon became too rigorous to allow the operation of extensive favoritism. The very cry that was raised, that the aristocratic (if by this term be meant those who have political or other influence) were the most favored, operated perhaps unjustly to a disproportionate exclusion of their offspring. Each representative felt responsible to his constituents for the use made of his recommendatory powers, and was called to account for all derelictions in favor of his own kith or kin. He felt compelled to act a disinterested part.

But, supposing that the high in place succeed in matriculating their sons at this seminary; have they been able to advance or sustain them there, unless their proficiency or correctness of deportment warranted it? We look in vain among the "stars" of the Institution for proof of this. Observers have had occasion to remark, that the protégés of the rich and powerful are more frequently among the periodical dismissions than any other class of Cadets. Unworthiness, or inaptitude are marked with inflexible justice, without regard to lineage or affluence. If deviations have occurred, which look like relenting from the strictness of the rule, they have been the effect of an extraneous influence that could not be controlled. There is probably not an Institution in the world, where active talent and good conduct have such untrammelled scope, such certain reward, as at West Point, and where those who are destitute of these claims to advancement are so certain not to receive it. The leading graduates of each class are satisfactory proof of this. If the wealthy and the eminent could secure honors to their offspring, the stars would not so often adorn the humble names that have borne them off. West Point should be particularly popular with the unpatronized and the obscure. It is there, and probably there alone, that no weight is admitted into the scale of merit, but that formed by assiduity and study, and rectitude of behaviour.

These brief considerations would lead one to suppose, that the Ohio resolution could not refer to any objections thus far alluded to. It may point to the education received by the Cadet there, though such a surmise seems scarcely credible.

The Officers of the Army were formerly taken nearly altogether from among the citizens. At the commencement of the war of 1812, a force of from 25 to 30,000 was officered mostly in this manner. It may be admitted that the chivalry, patriotism, and talent of the land contributed a due, or large proportion to this risk. This force was

sent into the field with all the inexperience inseparable from such an organization. The consequences have been recorded in defeat and blood. But it was no disgrace for such troops to be overcome. Nothing but accident, or the chance (a very improbable one) of being opposed to equally undisciplined levies, could have given it success. Many of these officers showed great courage and aptitude, and a few soon supplied, by the force of talent, the defects of ignorance. But it would have been an incalculable saving of life, treasure and national reputation, if a great majority of the officers, thus entrusted with the defence of their country, had had some training in their responsible duties, through even more than four years, at the public expense.

A very little reflection will convince any one that a fitness for performing the duties of an officer must be acquired somewhere, and at the public expense. There are no means within the reach of citizens which can afford it. No one is a subaltern, although he may be a General, by intuition. We hazard nothing in saying, that Conde himself, however qualified by nature to be a "great Captain," and to direct the movements of an army, would have been, without previous instruction, a small Captain under our organization, and utterly at a loss how to manage a platoon. Genius may jump at results, when the details are well performed by subordinates. The minutiae of discipline and administration, which form the basis of military efficiency, do not spring impromptu in any mind. We may as well think to recruit soldiers, after the manner of Cadmus, by sowing dragons' teeth in the ground, as to expect good company and regimental officers without much elementary training.

The only question then seems to be, shall this fitness be acquired *after* the officer has assumed the responsibilities, and been fixed in all the rights of a commission, or *before*? By making it preliminary, as is now the custom, there is a trial of ability to acquire it, which, if resulting in a failure, has no other consequence than the trifling expense incurred in making it. Neither soldiers nor public property have been in their novice hands, to suffer by their mal-adroitness. The public service is relieved from them while yet they are harmless. It is not until the most satisfactory evidence is given of proper qualifications to fulfil the purposes of a commission, that the Cadet now receives it. These graduates should not, therefore, be viewed in the invidious light of Eleemosynaries, being highly educated at the cost of the public; but as officers under probation. They are such to all intents and purposes, and can no more be regarded as the *Elevés* of government bounty, than the inexperienced officer, who is learning his duty under a full commission. In the latter case, if he be found wanting, there is no remedy but in a court martial—a remote and uncertain one, there being a doubt whether incapacity be proper matter for an accusation.

It seems improbable that the Ohio resolution can imply, that the education received at West Point is not as complete and useful as the "Founders" expected. If any one entertain an opinion of this kind, it must have sprung up under an unaccountable ignorance of events of much notoriety and annual occurrence. The "Examina-

tions" at West Point are well known and understood by every intelligent newspaper reader of the community. They are made, not only before a board of selected visitors, who represent the various portions of the country, but in the presence of crowds of the uninvited, who are drawn to the spot by a thousand attractions, the force of which is felt by all who come within their sphere of influence. These examinations exhibit a class of from thirty to fifty young men, all of whom, without exception, pass through an order of inflexible and searching severity, sounding the proficiency of each, and marking distinctly its depth and shallowness. If any one fail in a jot or tittle, he is liable to remain in the sieve, to be rejected as refuse. Such a case however is of rare occurrence. Few only are stars; not all are brilliant; but all, or nearly all, show an attainment in a vast variety of sciences, a familiarity with many departments of philosophy, and an aptitude in some of the arts, which confer on them a distinction that is highly honorable, and would render them eminent compared by any other standard. The scope of the West Point studies is well known to be both wide and deep, and it may be averred that the standing of even the most humble of the class being graduated, can be attained, in the allotted four years, only by a good capacity, most actively and assiduously employed.

During the last war, if there were a duty to be performed, involving the exercise of even a small degree of scientific acquirement, it was in vain to look among the officers for an agent, unless a West Pointer were there—slovenly and inadequate as was then the process of instruction at that institution. At this time, such a requisition would meet with a fit agent in nearly every subaltern of the army.

The Ohio resolution says that the Institution has been "perverted," and, *therefore*, ought to be "abolished." The conclusion, to the apprehension of common minds, would not seem to follow from the premises. If it have been perverted, there should be correction. Abolition is an extreme remedy, warranted only by a conviction that the "objects" of the institution are no longer desirable, or can better be attained by another method. Few can persuade themselves, that as long as we have an army, it is not well, and even sound economy, to qualify those who are to hold commissions in it, to serve the public profitably and honorably. If the Academy at West Point do not now fulfil this purpose, it would be a good reason for an effort to reform and improve, but not to destroy it.

Some believe that the system of conferring commissions only on the graduates of West Point, is limiting too narrowly the chances of competition. There is an error in this, which seems too obvious to escape notice. The number of successful candidates can, under no system, exceed the number of vacancies; that number succeeds, of course, under the present system. If the officers were appointed, without the intervention of West Point, the number would be in exact proportion to the vacancies, each appointment becoming, without any probationary process, permanent as soon as made. Under the present system, the chances are multiplied beyond that number, in proportion to the excess of admissions into the Academy over the

number which is finally graduated. There is, therefore, the double advantage under that system, of widening the field of competition, and at the same time of sifting out all the negligent, incapable, and reprobate.

Hostility to the West Point Academy rises and spreads occasionally, in different sections of the country, like an epidemic, and from causes equally unseen and inscrutable. It is easy to raise a bruit against it, by sweeping denunciations, which alarm and prejudice the multitude. Every Institution should be the subject of constant and jealous supervision. West Point ought not to, nor probably does not, shrink from such a supervision. She is under a control that is competent to all purposes of the most complete investigation. He who detects mal-administration, and leads to a correction, subverts the "best interests of the nation;" but he who shall succeed in breaking down the Institution, may not flatter himself with being regarded hereafter as a public benefactor.

NO GRADUATE.

Relative rank of the officers of the Army and Navy.

Executive document, No. 20, of the House of Representatives, of this session, contains a system of regulations, for the government of the Navy of the United States, prepared by a Board of Navy officers. The first subject is under the head of "Rank and Command." This chapter proposes to establish the relative rank of the officers of the Army and Navy. It begins by showing the rank of sea officers of the Navy, and makes them take rank as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. Admirals, | } Flag officers when authorized by law. |
| 2. Vice Admirals, | |
| 3. Rear Admirals, | |
| 4. Captains. | |
| 5. Commanders. | |
| 6. Lieutenants. | |

The military rank of the land and sea services of the United States, shall rank together as follows:

1. A Lieutenant, with a Captain of the Army.
2. A Commander with a Major.
3. A Captain from the date of his commission with a Lieutenant Colonel.
4. A Captain of five years standing with a Colonel.
5. A Captain of ten years standing with a Brigadier General.
6. A Captain of fifteen years standing with a Major General; but should there be created in the Navy, a higher rank than Cap-

tain, then rear Admirals only shall rank with Major Generals; vice Admirals with Lieut. Generals; and Admirals with Generals.

From this comparison of Army and Navy rank, it would appear that the relative rank of the officers of the American Army, is misunderstood by the Navy Department, and Board, and that the comparison is with officers of the British Army, rather than with officers of the American, or French Army.

A Major General in the Army of the United States, is a relative rank with a Lieutenant General in the British and French services, and a Brigadier General corresponds with the Major General of the British, and *Maréchal de camp* of the French Army. Because the appropriate command of an American Major General, and a British or French Lieutenant General, is that of a Division; and the command of an American Brigadier General, a British Major General, and a French *Maréchal de camp*, is that of a Brigade.

When an American General commands an Army, his rank is relative to that of an English *General*, or *Lieutenant General*, having the title of *Commander of the Forces*; or of a French *Lieutenant General*, having the title of *Général en chef*, or *Commandant en chef*.

The relative rank of the officers of the British Navy and Army, is settled as follows:

1. The Admiral or Commander in Chief of the British Fleet, ranks with a Field Marshal of the Army.
2. The Admirals with their flags at the main-top-mast-head, rank with Generals.
3. Vice Admirals with Lieutenant Generals.
4. Rear Admirals with Major Generals.
5. Commodores, with broad Pendants, rank with Brigadier Generals.
6. Captains commanding Post-ships, after three years from the date of their first commission for a Post-ship, rank with Colonels.
7. All other Captains commanding Post-ships, rank with Lieutenant Colonels.
8. Captains of ships or vessels not taking Post, rank with Majors.
9. Lieutenants of ships of war, with Captains.

Commodores, and Brigadier Generals in the British service are temporary, and not permanent, regular appointments. The promotion is from Captain to rear Admiral, and from Colonel to Major General.

In the time of Napoleon, the relative or assimilated rank of the officers of the British Army, with that of the officers of the French Army, was as follows:

Feld-Général, or	} Général de division.
Feld Maréchal Général,	
Lieutenant General,	} Général de Brigade.
Major General,	

The royal Navy officers, with the French Military, as follows:

Amiral commandant en chef,	} Général de division.
Amiral portant pavillon au grand mât de hune,	
Vice-Amiral,	

Rear Amiral	}	Général de brigade.
Commodore,		Colonel.
Post Captain de trois ans,	}	Chef de bataillon.
Maester and Commander, ou Captain-no-post.		Capitaine.
Capitaine de brûlot,		
Lieutenant, sans distinction,		

From a full and fair consideration of the relative rank of our officers of the Navy and Army, it would appear that something like the following would approach nearer to a proper adjustment of their relative standing to each other, particularly if based on the two services as they now stand, viz:—

1. The highest officer in the Navy, to rank with the highest officer in the Army.
2. Captains of ten years standing, with Brigadier Generals.
3. Captains of five years standing, with Colonels.
4. Captains under five years, with Lieutenant Colonels.
5. Masters Commandant, with Majors.
6. Lieutenants of five years standing, with Captains.
7. Lieutenants under five years, with 1st Lieutenants.

AN OLD SOLDIER.

CRITICAL NOTICES.

DIGEST OF THE LAWS RELATING TO THE MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT OF THE U. S., BY ALFRED MORDECAI, CAPTAIN OF THE ORDINANCE CORPS: Washington, 1833, Thompson and Homans.

We were not aware that there was so voluminous a code of Military Laws in existence, until our eye alighted upon the above work. We consider it truly a *Vade Mecum* for the soldier; and with it, if he does not understand when he is within the pale of the law, it certainly is not the fault of Congress, as they indeed do legislate profusely on all subjects. We were not conscious of the extent of this foible, until the above volume was looked into, for which the compiler deserves the warmest thanks, not only of the Army, but of the Navy, and the country at large: of the first, for giving them at one view all that has been done for and against them: of the Navy, for the example it ought not to follow: and of the latter, as a proof how uncharitable it would be to demolish West Point, for in truth it requires a Military Academy to enlarge the organ of comprehensiveness sufficiently to take them all in.

Unless we are greatly deceived, much good will sometime hence, result from the labors of the compiler, and we cannot better second the call he has made, than by using his own words, "that the work will serve to direct attention to the revision which our Military legislation so much requires."

The part which struck us most forcibly is the Militia Laws, nearly all of which were enacted as long ago as 1792, and are as crude, ill-defined, and uncivilized, as the country was at that period. Why, let us ask, is not this subject acted upon? What are the Committee about, that have this subject in charge? What has been done, or is doing, with the report of the Board of Officers, who met in 1826, at the seat of Government? and can the able paper of Gen. SUMNER, published in this Magazine last summer, on the subject of the Militia, fail to bring conviction of the importance of this subject to the welfare

of the country? And why, let us enquire, has not more attention been paid to the plan there recommended? The ideas of all, composing that Board, or who had any communication with it, gathered from all parts of the Union, had a remarkable coincidence.

Congress, however, do some praise-worthy acts; but, in truth, we are sadly at a loss to know whether to ascribe it to the intention of doing good, or to the doctrine of chances. Indeed it would be wonderful if, out of so many enactments, there were not some good ones. As one of the latter, we would instance the establishing of the Ordnance Corps. This digest gives us the laws for arming the Militia, by which \$200,000 have been appropriated annually, since 1808—a period of 26 years—making the sum of \$5,200,000, expended on this object; and all this without any system. We will venture to assert, that seven-eighths of the arms provided, and on hand, on the formation of this Corps, were either lost or unfit for service. We cannot but congratulate the country, that the appropriation has not been larger, which it certainly ought to be, now that we have superintendents over this vast and accumulating amount of public property, who have some knowledge of the subject, and who will feel a pride, not only in keeping the arms committed to their care, in due preservation, but in introducing all the modern improvements that have taken place in Europe. The deficiency in our equipments, &c. was so much felt, and known to be so inferior to those in Europe, that one of the first acts of the present Secretary of War, after the passage of the act, forming this Corps, was the sending an intelligent officer to Europe on purpose to acquire every information relative to the subject, which the experience in their long wars had led them to adopt. If we are not misinformed, the intelligent compiler of the volume under notice, is now on a similar errand.

One fact alone will serve to show how important this subject is considered by foreign Governments: the French, after trial of the different Artillery Trains, approved of and adopted that of the English, at an enormous expense to the nation. We know not which to admire most—their wisdom, or magnanimity; it certainly shows an absence of all petty national prejudices.

We have said that the appropriations for arming the Militia ought to be larger, and to prove the correctness of this assertion, it will only be necessary to state the length of time (viz: *upwards of seventy years!!*) that it will require to arm and equip the Militia at the present rate.

We feel inclined to continue this subject further, but shall defer it to another opportunity, and conclude with recommending the above volume to the officers of the Army and Navy; as it behooves all, who belong to both arms of our public defence, to be acquainted with the codes that govern each.

NAVAL ESSAYS; BY THE AUTHOR OF "A YEAR IN SPAIN:" *New York, 1833: George Dearborn.*

These Essays are well, simply, and delightfully told, giving one all in the Naval profession that is agreeable, and spreading over it such a *couleur de rose* to the novitiate, which we regret to think he is soon destined to outgrow; unless, perchance, the Preface of the author should have served as a beacon to cause him to beware of the danger, and of the certain destruction of his hopes of rising to the glorious station his ambition excites him to seek, and what he will surely consider, after this maiden halo of glory has vanished, in the words of the author, "*an ill-requited and cruelly neglected profession.*"

From the great praises which these Essays have received from other hands, we feel that we could hardly add any thing that would raise the author's reputation or assist in the distribution of his work. Yet we cannot withhold from the public, and the author, (if ever these remarks should meet his eye,) that his efforts have served, not only to amuse but to instruct those for whom they were designed; they have tended and will tend to much good in a way perhaps little anticipated, viz: to satisfy a young man, on his coming on ship-board, of the manner in which things are conducted, and prevent him from going for information to persons who are far more ignorant than himself in other respects;

this causes him, not unfrequently, to contract intimacies, which are calculated to give a looseness to his morals, that are injurious to his principles and standing thereafter. This little volume, we say, will prevent all such appeals.

We could wish that this agreeable writer would extend his remarks to the advantages to the service, from officers of different grades acting in harmony and concert with each other; there are few subjects, on which more could be said to dispel error, and from which benefit could be derived.

CAPTAIN R. HOLMES, LATE OF THE DRAGOONS.

At a meeting of the officers of the 6th Regiment, stationed at Fort Leavenworth, convened on hearing of the death of Captain R. Holmes, of the Dragoons, and late of the 6th Regiment, Major RILEY was called to the chair, and Lieut. CONRAD appointed secretary. It was

Resolved, 1st—that we deeply regret and deplore the untimely departure of our brother in arms, Captain R. HOLMES, associated as he was with us in such endearing relations, and whose social and amiable qualities we so much admired.

Resolved, that in testimony of our respect for the memory of our departed friend, we will wear crape on the left arm for thirty days.

Resolved, that these resolutions be signed by the chairman and secretary, and transmitted to the relations of our deceased friend, together with an assurance that we deeply sympathise with them in mourning the loss of one, who was deservedly exalted in the esteem and confidence of the public, and whom we mourn as a public loss.

Resolved, that the editor of the Military and Naval Magazine be requested to publish the above proceedings.

B. RILEY,

Major U. S. Army and Chairman.

JNO. CONRAD,

Lt. 6th Inf'y. and Secretary.

ARMY MEMORIAL.

To the Honorable the House of Representatives of the United States of America:

We the undersigned, Officers of the Army of the United States, having seen a bill reported from the Committee on Military Affairs, in the House of Representatives, entitled "*A Bill to provide for the widows and orphans of such officers of the Army as may die while in the service of the United States*," beg leave respectfully to remonstrate against the passage of the said bill.

From calculations which have been made, and reduced to a plain statement in figures, it is evident that no fund sufficiently large for the furtherance of the objects contemplated by the bill can be accumulated, without making such a reduction of the officer's pay as would press heavily upon his present necessities and future wants. We also believe that the bill as reported would be unjust: it would create a society to which every officer by the compulsion of the law is obliged to belong. It would take from that class of officers, which comprises the greater number, who have neither wives or children, a portion of the small means enjoyed by them; which is, in many instances, from the impulses of filial duty or fraternal affection, now devoted to other purposes. The sum thus forced from them, the unmarried officers, never reverts by any contingency for the benefit of an aged parent or helpless sister; nor do they, who object to the principles of the bill, receive in any shape or form remuneration for their losses. It appears to us equally just, were that class of officers, who, having families are to reap the benefit of the association, obliged to contribute something for the comfort and protection of the parents and sisters of those officers who

have no ties of wedded life, and into which such claims of affection forbid them to enter. If such an association is to be formed, let it be *voluntary*, having corporate privileges: but do not let the fanciful good of a distant contingency be productive of a present evil, in taking from many, who have most need of their pay, a portion of it to be given to some who do not want it. It is from considerations of this nature, that we respectfully approach your Honorable Body to remonstrate against the measure proposed: and pray to be left in the exercise of the rights and privileges enjoyed by every other community of our fellow citizens, to appropriate that which belongs to us, according to our own reason, affections and duties.

I. B. CRANE, Lt. Col. 2d Arty.
 ALEX. R. THOMPSON, Major 6th Infy.
 W. G. BELKNAP, Capt. 3d Infy.
 R. E. TEMPLE, 2d Lt. 3d Arty.
 W. C. De HART, 2d Reg. Arty. and Aid-de-camp.
 E. D. KEYES, 2d Lt. 3d Arty.
 A. G. BLANCHARD, 2d Lt. 3d Infy.
 E. TRENOR, Capt. U. S. Dragoons.
 JAS. H. SIMPSON, Br. 2d Lt. 3d Arty.
 WM. GIBBS McNEILL, Capt. T. Engineers.
 J. P. RUSSELL, Asst. Surgeon. U. S. A.
 R. W. COLCOCK, 2d Lt. 3d Infy.
 W. H. EMORY, 2d Lt. 4th Arty.
 W. S. CHANDLER, 2d Lt. 2d Arty.
 F. WHITING, Capt. 1st Arty.
 MOSES SCOTT, Bvt. 2d Lt. 5th Infy.
 JOHN ARCHER, Lt. 3d Infy.
 EDWARD MACOMB, Asst. Surgeon U. S. A.
 J. MUNROE, Capt. 4th Arty.
 A. BECKLEY, 1st Lt. 4th Arty.
 E. DEAS, 2d Lt. 4th Arty.
 CHARLES O. COLLINS, 2d Lt. 4th Arty.
 N. S. HARRIS, 1st Lt. 3d Infy.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS.—The following troops have recently been ordered from Fort Mitchell, Ala.:

Brevet Major McIntosh, of the 4th Inf. with his Company C, and Captain Page's Company F, to occupy Camp Armistead, Tellico Plains, Tennessee.

Brevet Major Wager, with his Company A, to the Chickasaw Nation, at or near the Agency.

Captain Belton, of the 2d Art. with his Company B, to the command of the new works, called Fort Morgan, just completed, at Mobile Point.

Captain Legate's Company A, to relieve Brevet Major Zantzinger in command of Fort Wood.

Brevet Major Zantzinger, of the 2d Art. with his company H, to assume the command of the new works, called Fort Pickens, on Santa Rosa Island, near Pensacola.

Captain G. W. Gardiner, of the 2d Art. with his Company C, to relieve Captain Baden, in command of Fort Jackson, Louisiana.

Captain Baden, of the 2d Art., with his Company I, to the command of the Arsenal, at Augusta, Geo.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., Jan. 15.—Col. *Reynolds*, Chickasaw Agent, arrived in town a few days ago, from a tour to the south-west, with a deputation of the Chickasaw Indians, for the purpose of selecting a suitable country for the future home of that tribe. They proceeded no farther than Fort Towson, at or near which post they held a council with the Choctaws, with a view of obtaining a portion of their country.

We understand that the five companies of U. S. Dragoons, recently ordered to Fort Gibson, arrived at that post two or three weeks ago. A gentleman who left there since their arrival, informs us that they are an efficient and fine looking corps, and appear to be under excellent discipline.—*Gazette*.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

The ship *Falmouth*, Captain Gregory, arrived at New York from the Pacific on the 1st. Feb: after a cruise of thirty one months. She sailed from Valparaiso on the 5th of October, and from Rio Janeiro on the 15th December. While at the latter place, Captain Gregory was informed by the British naval commander on that station, that he had, in pursuance of orders from the Board of Admiralty, despatched a Lieutenant and four seamen, to take possession of, and occupy the Falkland Islands, in the name and behalf of the Government of Great Britain.

The *Falmouth* has been absent from the United States 970 days, of which she has been at sea 403, and has sailed by the log 50,000 miles.

A list of officers of the United States ship FALMOUTH.

Commander—Francis H. Gregory. *Lieutenants*—Thomas Dornin, Elisha Peck, Henry W. Morris, Charles M. Armstrong. *Acting Master*—John H. Roberts. *Surgeon*—W. S. W. Ruschenberger. *Assistant Surgeon*—Hugh Morson. *Purser*—McKean Buchanan. *First Lieutenant Marines*—J. L. C. Hardy. *Midshipmen*—Charles W. Pickering, Stephen Dod, Thomas F. Davis, John Shaw Booth, W. S. Smith, Thomas M. Brasher. *Boatswain*—Robert H. O'Neal. *Gunner*—Samuel Daggett. *Carpenter*—W. L. Shuttleworth. *Sail Maker*—Samuel V. Hawkins. *Purser's Steward*—David McComb. *Master's Mate*—Ethan A. Rawson. *Passenger*—*Acting Master* Benj. J. Totten.

List of officers of the United States Schooner DOLPHIN, at Callao, Sept. 1st.

Lieutenant Commanding—J. Collings Long. *Lieutenants (acting)*—Matthew F. Maury, Sylvanus Godon. *Master (acting)*—M. G. L. Claiborne. *Midshipmen*—Wm. H. Pendleton, A. B. Davis, Wm. B. Whiting, Charles Hunter. *Assistant Surgeon*—Cornelius Moore. *Captain's Clerk*—Nicholas Gilman. *Purser's Steward*—Jas. F. Harrison.

The United States Ship *John Adams*, P. F. Voorhees, Esq., Commander, arrived in Hampton Roads on Friday, 31st January—officers and crew all well.

Left at Athens, 13th Sept. U. S. ship *United States*, Capt. Nicolson, with Com. Patterson, and family on board, bound to Constantinople; touched at many of the ports on the Mediterranean, and on the Coast of Western Africa.

At Port Mahon, 21st Oct., U. S. ship *Constellation*, Capt. Read, from Marseilles—all well. Spoke off Cape de Gatt, a few days previous to 1st Nov., U. S. ship *Delaware*, Capt. Ballard, from Gibraltar, bound to Port Mahon.

Left Gibraltar 1st. Nov. and on the 20th Dec. was at Cape Mesurado. A French corvette had arrived there, charged with presenting the thanks of its Government, for the hospitality and kindness of the Colonial cruiser towards the officers and crew of a French vessel which had been wrecked on the coast near Goree.

List of officers attached to the U. S. ship John Adams, 1st of February, 1834.

Philip F. Voorhees, Esq. Master Commandant; Thomas Petigru, 1st Lieutenant; Edmund Byrne, 2d do; Charles H. McBlair, 3d do; Neil M. Howison, 4th do; G. R. B. Horner, Surgeon; Edward T. Dunn, Purser; James F. Schenck, Acting Sailing Master; J. Vaughan Smith, Assistant Surgeon.

Midshipmen—F. V. Delberghe, W. S. Ringgold, W. L. Herndon, C. Watkins, James Anderson, R. B. Pegram, N. G. Bay, J. H. North, F. E. Barry, B. F. Anderson.

William Waters, Boatswain; David Taggart, Gunner; Daniel Bane, Carpenter; Madison Wheedon, Sailmaker; Frederic Farlie, Captain's Clerk.

RESIGNATIONS.

Pedro C. Valdes, Lieutenant,	20th October, 1833.
John G. Rodgers,	do 10th February 1834.
Philip A. Stockton,	do 14th do do.
William S. Rogers, Purser,	17th do do.
William W. Smith, Midshipman,	1st Feb. do.
Charles W. Elliot,	do 1st do do.

WEST INDIES.—Ship *Vandalia*, Captain Webb, sailed from Pensacola, 5th February, on a cruise.

Ship *St. Louis*, Captain Newell, sailed from Pensacola, 4th February, on a cruise.

Schr. *Grampus*, Lieut. Com'g. Smoot, sailed from Pensacola on the 3d Feb: for Havana and Norfolk, and arrived at the latter place on the 20th. List of officers: Lieut. Com'g.—Joseph Smoot. Lieutenants—Arthur Lewis, Wm. B. Lyne. Acting Sailing Master—E. T. Doughty. Assistant Surgeon—D. C. McLeod. Purser—Sterrett Ramsey. Passed Midshipmen—T. M. Washington, John M. Gardner, Augustus H. Kilty. Midshipmen—Charles C. Barton, Thomas W. Melville, John J. B. Walbach, Charles Stedman, Henry S. Stellwagen, Roger Perry, Joseph W. Revere, Albert A. Holcomb, Wm. Leigh, Frederick A. Bacon. Captain's Clerk—W. M. McKenney. Passengers on the sick ticket—Lieut. Gurdon C. Ashton, and Midshipman Mathias Marine.

Schr. *Experiment*, Lieut. Com'g. Paine, was at Pensacola, 5th February.

BRAZIL.—Ship *Lexington*, Captain McKeever, with Commodore Woolsey on board, was at Buenos Ayres 15th November, and at Monte Video on the 17th December.

Ship *Ontario*, Captain Salter, was spoken 4th December, in lat. 31° 51' N.—lon. 39° 58' W. on her way to the coast of Brazil.

MEDITERRANEAN.—The *Delaware* 74, was at Port Mahon, 27th Dec.—all well.

Schr. *Shark*, Lieut. Com'g. Paulding, arrived at Lisbon on the 6th Dec. in 26 days from New York, having touched at Terceira. Sailed from Lisbon on the 12th—at Gibraltar on the 20th—and arrived at Mahon on the 27th, all well.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

SEAMEN'S BANK FOR SAVINGS.—The annual report of this institution was made to the Legislature of New York on Tuesday, Feb. 4th. The transactions of the past year are as follows:

Amount of deposits received from 569 depositors,	\$74,288 74
“ Interest,	4,255 16
“ Stock redeemed,	7,200 03
“ in the treasurer's hands at the close of 1832,	22,367 19
	<hr/>
	\$108,111 12
Of this amount there was paid to the depositors,	\$70,625 61
Invested in U. S. Stock,	8,590 99
Expenses,	1,040 40
Balance in treasurer's hands,	27,857 12
	<hr/>
	\$108,111 12

The total amount invested in stocks is \$66,165 28, and the trustees state that since closing the accounts for the year, they have been enabled to credit a rate of 5 per cent. per annum to each account not exceeding \$500, and to each account of larger sums, 4 per cent. per annum.

SAILORS' SNUG HARBOR.—From the returns to the Treasurer of this Institution, it appears that the annual income has already reached the sum of \$32,000—two thirds of which arises from the ground rent of lots in the Fifteenth Ward. This valuable property, 221 lots, has all been leased out within the last seven years at very reduced rates, as an inducement for lessees to erect large and valuable dwellings. On a second renewal of the leases, the income will be increased probably to sixty thousand dollars at least. The Trustees hold Bank Stock and Mortgages, &c. at the present time to the amount of about a hundred thousand Dollars, the interest of which, with rents of real estate, is over ten thousand dollars. The trustees have erected a large and commodious building on Staten Island, where some fifty or sixty disabled seamen have found a Snug Harbor for life—where they have every want supplied, and at the same time are required to occupy only as much time for labor as will contribute to their health and comfort.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 1834.

Kept at the Depot of Naval Instruments, Washington City.

[MARCH,

NETEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL.

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Moon's Phases.	Day.	Barometer.	Temperature Max. Min.	Dew Point	Weather.	Direction.	Wind. Force.	Rain. in.	REMARKS.
1st Qr.	Wed. 1	30.088	49	36	cloudy, cloudy, cloudy,	N & E	light	4	Mean height of the Barometer, during the month, In. 30.235
	Thur. 2	29.700	46	34	rain, mist, rain,	N E	light		
	Fri. 3	30.317	40	23	clear, cloudy, clear,	S W	strong		
	Sat. 4	30.520	31	12	cloudy, clear, clear,	S W	moderate		Mean maximum temperature, 39° 9
	Sun. 5	30.312	23	15	clear, snow, snow,	N E	moderate	2.00	Mean minimum " 24°
	Mon. 6	30.065	27	13	cloudy, clear, cloudy,	N W	fresh		
	Tues. 7	30.052	33	24	cloudy, clear, cloudy,	N W	light		
New M.	Wed. 8	30.088	42	11	cloudy, clear, cloudy,	S W	light		Mean dew point, 29°
	Thur. 9	30.390	43	23	cloudy, clear, cloudy,	S E	light		
	Fri. 10	30.250	36	22	clear, cloudy, clear,	N E	light		
	Sat. 11	30.095	34	34	rain, rain, snow,	N E	light		Snow and rain, In. 4.5
	Sun. 12	29.800	40	34	mist, foggy, rain,	N E	light		
	Mon. 13	30.312	36	33	foggy, mist, mist,	N E	light	.8	
	Tues. 14	30.400	43	23	clear, clear, cloudy,	N W	strong		
1st Qr.	Wed. 15	30.600	45	25	clear, clear, cloudy,	N W	light		
	Thur. 16	30.625	43	22	clear, clear, clear,	N E	moderate		
	Fri. 17	30.235	48	20	clear, cloudy, cloudy,	S W	moderate		
	Sat. 18	30.055	45	41	rain, rain, rain,	South	strong	.7	
	Sun. 19	30.150	47	39	clear, cloudy, mist,	West	light		
	Mon. 20	30.045	54	38	rain, rain, clear,	S W	light	.6	
	Tues. 21	30.240	61	36	cloudy, snow, rain	N W	strong		
Full M.	Wed. 22	30.440	38	25	clear, clear, cloudy,	N W	strong		
	Thur. 23	30.410	38	27	clear, clear, clear,	N W	moderate	4.5	
	Fri. 24	30.365	40	19	clear, clear, clear,	N W	light		
	Sat. 25	30.415	30	23	snow, snow, cloudy,	S E	light		
	Sun. 26	29.900	31	25	clear, snow, cloudy,	N W	moderate		
	Mon. 27	30.100	35	19	clear, clear, clear,	N W	fresh		
	Tues. 28	30.225	34	18	clear, cloudy, clear,	West	moderate		
1st Qr.	Wed. 29	30.520	38	26	clear, clear, clear,	N W	moderate		
	Thur. 30	30.395	35	28	cloudy, rain, cloudy,	N W	light		
	Fri. 31	30.150	47	30	clear, misty, clear,	N W	light		